MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER.

AGRICULTURE HORTICULTURE RURAL LIFE EXCELSIOR LITERATURE SCIENCE ARTS NEWS

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MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER,
AN ORIGINAL WEEKLY
AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY JOURNAL.

CONDUCTED BY D. D. T. MOORE,
With an Able Corps of Assistants and Contributors.

CHAS. D. BRAGDON, Western Corresponding Editor.

THE RURAL NEW-YORKER is designed to be unsurpassed in Value, Purity, Usefulness and Variety of Contents, and unique and beautiful in Appearance. Its Conductor devotes his personal attention to the supervision of its various departments, and earnestly labors to render the RURAL an eminently Reliable Guide on all the important Practical, Scientific and other Subjects intimately connected with the business of those whose interests it zealously advocates. As a FAMILY JOURNAL it is eminently Instructive and Entertaining—being so conducted that it can be safely taken to the Hearts and Homes of people of intelligence, taste and discrimination. It embraces more Agricultural, Horticultural, Scientific, Educational, Literary and News Matter, interspersed with appropriate and beautiful Engravings, than any other journal,—rendering it the most complete AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER in America.

AGRICULTURAL.

INQUIRIES AND NOTES.

Curculio and the Potato Rot.

THE Curculio is one of those unfortunate fellows who, having obtained a bad character, finds no difficulty in keeping it. He is without a friend in the world—having no one to say a word in his favor or present one extenuating quality. The Curculio, therefore, has to bear a great many false charges, which we all too readily believe. The few cherries left us by the winter were destroyed by this little enemy, and our early apples are suffering sorely from his punctures; but we have before us a letter from a correspondent of Windham, Ohio, in which he is charged with being the cause of the potato rot. This charge has been made before, and particularly by a gentleman of New Jersey, who, after long investigation, with the aid of a microscope, became satisfied that the Curculio was the sole cause of the potato disease. Notwithstanding, we very much doubt the truth of this theory; for in some places where the potato rot is the most severe, the Curculio is almost entirely unknown. While on this subject, we may as well say that we have received a note from JENISON BANCROFT, of Shortsville, Ontario county, stating that for ten years past he has prevented serious loss from rot, much to the astonishment of his neighbors. In no season has he lost more than from three to five per cent. He is willing to make known his method to all who will try it, on condition that after becoming satisfied of its value they shall deposit with us "a small donation to help him in his old age." So many certain remedies for this mysterious disease have been published that we have little faith in any new developments. The crop at present is promising, with no sign of rot.

Draining and Drouth.

IT has been claimed by the advocates of thorough draining, that it prevents, in a great measure, the evil effects of long-continued drouth. Our attention has been called to articles in the *London Gardener's Chronicle*, which seem to teach the very opposite of this theory. For some time the fine trees in the parks and pleasure grounds of London have shown symptoms of decline, and many have died. The matter has become so serious as to claim the attention of the most scientific men in the country, and the press are urging immediate action to stay the evil. The *Gardener's Chronicle* believes the dying of the trees to be mainly owing to the system of deep drainage or sewerage, which draws off the natural moisture of the earth; this being greatly facilitated by gutters, &c., which carries rapidly into sewers all rains that fall. The remedy proposed is a thorough system of artificial watering at the roots to supply moisture, several times during the summer, and cleansing of the foliage from soot, dust, &c., by frequent washing. It will be seen that the system of London drainage is very different from that practiced in the field. Here the water is carried by well arranged gutters into the sewers, and not one-quarter perhaps of the water that falls enters the soil. On the contrary, the thorough drainage and deep tillage of the farmer effects the very opposite. The rain, which, under ordinary circumstances, runs off the surface into open drains and creeks, often causing injurious washing, passes through the soil, imparting substances useful to vegetation. As the water passes through the soil, the air is, in a measure, displaced, and as the rain water descends to the drains, its place is occupied by fresh air. Thus, showers on drained land not only moisten the soil to a good depth, but give accessions of fresh air. We very much doubt whether drainage is causing the death of the trees in the London parks, and think it more likely chargeable to the smoke, soot, dust, and foul gases of the metropolis. If a damaged flue allows the smoke and gas to escape and mingle with the air of the conservatory, the gardener will soon find his plants in a sickly and dying state—in just the condition of the London trees. It is a matter of surprise not that the trees are dying, but that they have endured an impure atmosphere so long. But, whatever be the cause, it furnishes no argument against underdraining, as our correspondent seems inclined to believe.

WEEDS—A CALL TO THE LADIES.

THE RURAL NEW-YORKER did good service in calling attention to this subject in former numbers; but as these "unclean spirits" in agriculture "go not out" at our simple bidding, let us continue to exorcise them by every process at our command.

"A virgin soil"—ah! there is more in that than our careless utterance imports—a soil fresh from the hands of our Maker, not yet delivered up to brambles and worthless weeds, ready to quicken into life and growth the *cereals* that support mankind; which needs *unremitting attention*, rather than continuous labor or expensive outlay, to save *it from desecration*,—a virgin soil! not too highly prized.

Arithmetic would falter under the load if it should attempt to carry to a sum total the ruinous cost of growing pestiferous weeds. The exhaustion of the soil is one item; the tenacious occupancy of much of our best land by these pests of agriculture, to the partial or entire exclusion of useful plants, is another item; the frightfully increasing labor of even their partial suppression is still another item; while their triumphant march to new conquest and more extended domains make us tremble for the future.

The modest little "privateer" which, bound up in a bundle of wheat is quite out of sight, gives life and being to a thousand like itself. Daisy and dock, mustard and pigeon weed, Canada thistle and rog-weed, come in so quietly, and carry themselves so meekly, for a year or two, that we scarce believe they will ever amount to any thing, when, all of a sudden, they spring up like armed legions, to bid us defiance. What might have been exterminated in five or fifteen minutes, root and branch, wait till next year, would consume months, and the *year after* bid defiance to the labor of a life. "Avoid the first appearance of evil," is the weightiest of all moral maxims, and, applied to these material interests, the only safe rule.

We have, in this neighborhood, along our water-courses and low lands, a weed whose flower resembles mustard, which a few years ago was confined to one farm where it found accidental lodgment. There it was, with its modest yellow blossom, its two or three, its dozen or twenty roots, that could have been hoshed up for ever in ten minutes by a couple of boys; now it has gone down every stream, and up every rivulet for ten miles around, crowding out better herbage, and bidding defiance to all opposition.

In conversing the other day with Dr. COX, Chancellor of Ingham University, I said to him, "Agriculture requires a service of you, and the ladies you are educating; it wants you to acquaint the people with that branch of botany which relates to pestiferous weeds."

There are many "noxious weeds," well known to be noxious in sections where they prevail, which the people at large are unacquainted with, and which they do not get acquainted with till they are *too many to be pulled*. The tare, or pigeon weed, so injurious to wheat, had scattered millions of seeds on farms in this vicinity before we found out it was a "bad weed."

The other day I was riding with Mr. CAMERON, who has been round some, and he pointed out a plant which was taking it very cooly by the road side—rog weed, I think—which, scarcely known here, is quite too well known in Ohio. Let somebody publish a "pestiferous botany," which shall begin with *tobacco* and follow up with the other nuisances in the order of their rascality.

The whole Continent, and such portions of Europe as we traffic with, should be examined in reference to plants injurious to agriculture. Such plants should be scientifically and popularly described, and the students of all our schools should know them by sight. Our botanical scholars are generally *young ladies*,—I don't pretend to know what they study botany for. I see them rambling round in the woods and through the grass with their thin shoes and muslin dresses on, pretty well drabbled, with hands full of what we used to call posies—now smelling them, and now peering into them very inquisitively, and calling them the hardest names in the decalogue—I mean the Greek language, or something else.

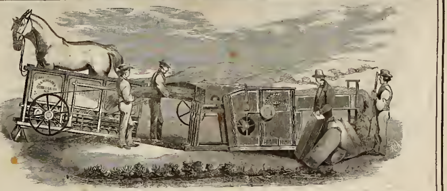
I never object to language above my comprehension,—it proves somebody knows more than I do,—but I don't want our dear young ladies to die of consumption for the sake of moonshine and mignionette,—I don't want them to waste their fragrance on exotics and rare things, which can never do us much good or harm, when dangerous interlopers are invading our fields and driving us out, with nobody to give the alarm. If going to the Female Seminary six months, or whatever time it takes in this day and age of the world to finish an education, could acquaint a lady with one *bad weed* which had just begun to come in, and she should act as "notary public" for the rest of the people, and especially if she should pull her apron full, now and then for service and not for sentiment, then, indeed science would *pay*. I suggested this, in the blindest possible way, to the ladies of my own household, and they returned the next day with a handful of white daisies, whose presence in this neighborhood I was till then entirely unconscious of.

Let every body keep a look out for bad weeds. And here I will say, all weeds should be scrupulously guarded against; for when they get in and sow their seeds broadcast, an immense amount of labor is required to keep them under.

I put corn last year on an old meadow, never plowed before. There were plenty of worms but scarce a weed. This year I put it to beans; and it scarce requires hoeing at all; but very likely I shall let a few go to seed to keep us busy enough hereafter, in spite of the evident fact that it is a hundred times cheaper to *keep weeds out than to get them out*. I now think *after harvest* I will pull every one up, but in view of the depravity of the human heart, there is eminent doubt in the case.

Oh, ye inhabitants of new countries! how cheaply you raise corn on your "virgin soil." Agriculture is almost a *luxury*, so prolific is the land in good herbage, and so free from bad. Beware! beware! here and there is dock, daisy, tory-weeds, pig-weeds, or pusley, and if you leave one you are sure of a thousand. This is a question of *bread* for the "unborn million," and rises almost or quite to the dignity of a *moral and religious* subject. I invoke the pulpit. I suggest the following notice for Sunday:—"The sewing society will meet on Wednesday afternoon, at sister J. SMITH'S, and Canada thistles must be cut or they will go to seed within a week."

H. T. B.



HARDER'S HORSE-POWER, THRESHER AND CLEANER.

OUR engraving represents the Chain Horse-Power, Thresher and Cleaner manufactured by Messrs. R. & M. HARDER, of Cobleskill, N. Y. This power was awarded the first premium at the New York State Fair at Elmira, last October, several celebrated machines competing for the post of honor. The manufacturers claim that this machine produces more power, with less elevation, and is operated with greater ease to the team, than any other—"going only about one and-a-half miles per hour when doing at least a fair business, say 100 to 500 bushels of oats per day, or half that quantity of wheat or rye." Among the advantages claimed, are—"That the friction rollers, or little wheels as they are usually called, are larger, (being 6 inches in diameter,) requiring less elevation;—That it has a reel in the lower end of the bridge, which does away with the crooked track around the end, and serves to carry the rods and wheels from the upper to the lower track, giving the wheels time to stop rolling motion before striking said track, thereby allowing them to reverse and pass along smoothly, without loss of power and obviating the pounding noise to which others are subject;—That these, with other mechanical advantages, cause this power to run much stiller than any other—indeed rendering its operation nearly free from noise, except that caused by the step of the horses on the plank."

The proprietors also claim that the Cleaner, though a late invention, has been thoroughly tested and is meeting with unparalleled favor—and they believe no machine of the class has ever been offered to the public that is so generally admitted to be just what a Two-Horse Thresher and Cleaner should be. This is their opinion—to which they add that it is capable of doing a large amount of business, without waste, and in the best manner, "cleaning as well as a good fanning mill;" that it is very convenient, being easily changed from right to left hand, and lighter than many others of less capacity—points that they aver are not possessed by any other machine. For further particulars, see our advertising department.

WESTERN EDITORIAL NOTES.

MANURING GRASS LANDS.

IT is not an uncommon thing, here on the prairies, to hear men aver that the land is rich enough without manure. There are very many men who assert that the addition of manure to the fertile soils of the West is a disadvantage—it diminishes the crop instead of increasing it; it causes too great a growth of straw and it falls down. In many cases it is doubtless impolitic to apply manure strongly to the soil immediately preceding the cropping it with small grain. It is better to apply it to the land while in grass, or before cropping it with corn or other coarse, gross feeding crop.

Riding through the country the other day, I came up with a young man whose phiz told me he belonged to a garrulous tribe. Accordingly I determined to set his tongue in motion—hinted that it was a "great country"—a beautiful country—crops splendid—soil incomparably rich, &c., &c. I had tickled the Sucker, and away went his tongue like a Firefly Press.

"I reckon you're from away down east—from down among them rocks, and hills, and stumps, and sich like, that we've hearn tell on but never sea'd."

"Yes, I was originally from the East."

"I thought so—don't talk like a ro'al live Sucker. My father was born in York State, but I wasn't. I've hearn tell how they farmed it down thar, but we don't need no sich style of farming here on the *pra-ra-rie*." (By the way, that is a political way of pronouncing prairie. Our estimable Governor, DICK YATES, used that pronunciation last fall on the stump; and even New Hampshire HALE, and his contemporary wit, NYE, of New York, astonished us of the West by using a third syllable in this very beautiful and simple two-syllabled word, pronounced by WEBSTER, and by all educated Suckerdom, *pra'-re*.) "We don't need to save and use manure; all we've got to do is to get in the seed the best way we can, and we have more grain than we can take care on."

I asked him if he read any agricultural papers. He answered his father used to take a down east paper, but *he* did not want any such nonsense about him—could grow all the grain and hay he wanted without any paper, and a good deal more than he could harvest and sell.

Now there is a large class of just such men as this one in the West. They believe in grain; they do nothing but plant or sow and harvest. There is no effort to adapt their products to the wants of the market. And they are bigoted in the "enlarged sense" of the term; their prosperity is inversely proportionate to their bigotry.

All this is preliminary to the record of the testimony ISAAC FUNK gave me on this subject of manuring prairie lands. I was led to suppose that with the immense area of land under his control, and from the character of his husbandry, little value would be placed upon manure. I beg ISAAC FUNK'S pardon for the libelous thought! I was greatly astonished to hear him assert that "manuring pays on all lands and for all crops—*especially on grass lands*." He emphasized those words as I have. He asserted: "My pastures of blue grass, on which cattle have herded a dozen years, are better to-day than they were before a bullock had stepped on them; and when I tell you that it will pay any man who handles as much stock as I do, to yard his cattle every night, save, take care of, and compost the manure dropped in the yards, and apply it to the grass lands, you may be sure that I mean what I say—I *know* it will pay." He would apply the manure late in the fall, but before the heavy rains. This mode of applying manure to land intended for corn, is, as a rule, far better than hauling it in the spring, in the mud, cutting up farm roads, or worse, meadows, and plowing it under six or eight inches deep. Even if it is *coarse* manure, the mulch in the fall will render the land as light and porous as will the stratum of straw six inches beneath the surface. There are doubtless some soils in the West where it will be profitable to apply the manure direct to the ground the season it is intended to grow small grain on it; but as a rule it is better to apply the fall previous, because the ground is in better condition to receive it, and there is more *time* at the command of the farmer. It should be remembered that a *mulch* on stiff clay soils, liable to bake and crack, is as effective in preventing baking, as if the same coarse litter were turned under the sod.

CHANGING PASTURES.

At this season of the year, this is a matter of some importance to most farmers. Comparatively few seem to know the economy of food and corresponding increase of profit which results from a subdivision of pasture lands, and systematic change of stock (of all kinds) from one pasture to another, periodically. The change is quite as essential to the health and prosperity of the animal, and quite as grateful too, as is a change of diet to man. We cloy if fed with one kind of food constantly, and soon loathe the dish on which it appears; so animals like a clean dish and fresh food—a clean, fresh, sweet pasture. This system of change is as important to the durability of the pasture as to prosperity of the stock. Very many pastures are too closely fed, and at a season when the plant is least able to recover from the shock given its vitality. It is well to feed pastures close; because it keeps down and destroys weeds, and makes the new growth of forage tender and sweet. But there is a limit to this close feeding. It is not uncommon, a little later in the season, to see cattle fairly gnawing at the roots of the dry herbage in order to get a living. It is wrong, and the same pasture, divided, each part resting and being fed alternately, would render it unnecessary. ISAAC FUNK testifies in this matter. He has a ten thousand acre range for his herds. He says cattle do not do as well on such range as they would do in smaller fields, with frequent regular change from one to another. He intends so to subdivide his pasture, and asserts that then the same amount of land will keep more cattle, and they will be easier controlled and cared for.

BEST SIZE FOR PLOWED FIELDS.

Mr. FUNK'S plow-fields range in size from twenty to six hundred and forty acres. He has but few fields smaller than forty acres which he says are both small and large enough. But we did not understand that Mr. F. would inclose each forty acre plow-field with a fence. On some accounts it might be an advantage; but it should be done with a hedge if done at all. Headlands—grass headlands—about each forty acres are very convenient, and in many instances, especially on a very large grain farm with a timber protection, are all the subdivision necessary. It is true a hedge about each forty acres would be beautiful, and a great protection—would modify the climate greatly. But the care of them would be costly, and the planting of groves or groups of trees would effect a better modification of the climate, give greater variety and beauty to the landscape, and economise the amount of headland necessary. As a rule, grass headlands, on our prairies, are very convenient about each twenty acre field. They should be seeded with tame grasses, and the grass cut as regularly as a lawn is cut. It will pay to do it, in more than one way.

GROUPS OR BELTS OF TREES.

While I am strongly committed to hedges and timber belts for the prairies, I am getting "out of sorts" with this "timber belting" mania. The fact is—to define my position—I believe each farm, and perhaps each forty acres, should be inclosed with a good Osage Orange hedge; but I would not have the subdivisions made with hedge in all cases. I would use portable fence, when practicable, or wire fence *to inclose the stock*. There is no need that each field of grain be *fenced* from its neighbor field. The headlands before mentioned are all that are necessary for division. It is now the practice to plant belts of timber along the north, west, and sometimes the south sides of the farm. Some such protection is *necessary*, strictly so, on the broad prairies, but it is a question, with me at least, whether these *belts* are the *best* forms of protection; whether the planting of *groups* of evergreen and deciduous trees, of greater or less extent, would not effect the necessary modification of climate, insure the proper protection, and yet afford *circulation of air* sufficient to prevent late and early frosts. Too much "protection" proves disastrous to fruit blossoms and tender, early vegetables. It is believed that both for useful and ornamental purposes the groves or groups are more desirable than the belts with regular angular outline. There can be no question whatever about the relative effect of careful, tasteful grouping. The picture of a belted farm, compared with the grove dotted acres, quickly settles the question. Every farm should be a picture—is a picture—and should be the most beautiful that man and his means can make it. A man has no right to expend money and labor on a farm with an exclusive eye to profit, and regardless

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of good taste and harmonious effect. Fortunately, there is no antagonism whatever between the beautiful and useful; for it is a fact that the most useful forms of matter are the most beautiful; that the rapid running stream affords the greater power; the most symmetrical, swaying giant oak, the greatest strength. There are no *perfect* forms in nature which are not the most beautiful and useful of their kind. Again, I aver, each domain—each farm—should be a perfect landscape of itself—harmonizing, of course, as much as possible with the country about it, yet complete as a picture alone. This effect cannot be acquired by planting belts uniformly. Groups here and there, affording fine views and distant vistas, with single trees to relieve the eye, always keeping in view in the planting, the *use* of this field and that, and the protection *necessary*, are what we recommend. What has been said is merely suggestive, and given here to call attention to the incongruous character of these belts, to attract the attention of the prairie planter to something beside *straight belts*. We propose to discuss it further at another time.

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LETTER FROM THE WEST.

Quincy, Ill.—Adams County—The Union Sentiments of the People—The Wheat and other Crops—Future Prospects, etc.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Should you deem the following hasty pen-jottings of sufficient importance to interest the numerous readers of your widely circulated and invaluable RURAL, please pass the MS. into the hands of your compositors.

The little semi-occidental city of Quincy occupies a high and healthy position on the eastern bank of the Mississippi, 150 miles above St. Louis, Missouri, and 578 miles below St. Paul, Minnesota. Spacious streets, well paved sidewalks, an endless variety of shade trees, three or four beautiful public squares, some fifteen or twenty splendid churches, hundreds of magnificent private residences, and block after block of massive, costly-built business houses, give to the city a charmingly tasteful and suggestively pleasing appearance unsurpassed by any Western town, city, or boasted emporium of trade. Commencing its career of real prosperity about the year 1850, Quincy has called within its limits an industrious population of 16,000 souls, while, up to the present lamentably unfortunate standstill in the entire industrial affairs of our country, its commercial and manufacturing operations were unsurpassed by any city in Illinois, save Chicago. But, notwithstanding their business depressions, our people remain buoyantly hopeful, all believing that when this not only senseless, but atrociously wicked rebellion, is crushed out, their city will again bound forward on its destined mission of increasing population, the augmentation of wealth and true moral greatness, with a far more hopeful impetus than ever.

Adams county comprises a vast body of rolling prairies, here and there diversified by wide belts of heavily timbered land—thus rendering the prairies ten-fold more valuable—unsurpassed in fertility by any county within this proverbially fertile State. The intelligent and thrifty farmers of Adams county, as also the goodly people of Quincy, are Union to the core, unanimously believing that this rebellion must be put down and the Government restored to its former unity and acknowledged power. As a proof of this, no county within the State having the same number of inhabitants has furnished more brave, hardy soldiers. The city of Quincy has also furnished a General—PRENTISS, the present commandant at Cairo,—a model Quartermaster-General, in the person of Ex-Governor WOOD,—and last, though far from least, our city has recently furnished a U. S. Senator, in the person of O. H. BROWNING.

From 1856 to '60, the farmers of Adams county were sadly straitened by a succession of "bad crops." Last year, however, they were quite elated with a most abundant harvest. But, if crops were good last year, what shall be said of them this year? In 1860 the wheat crop of this county averaged scarce fifteen bushels per acre, while for the present year the average yield will exceed twenty-five bushels for each acre devoted to that indispensable cereal.

The past two weeks of most charming harvest weather has enabled our farmers to secure their entire crop of winter wheat, in the most perfect order; while a continuance of the same for ten days longer, will afford them an opportunity for harvesting their spring wheat and oats with equal success. Our spring wheat and oats are unusually heavy, plump grained, and clear of any extraneous matter.

From present indications, the corn crop hereabout will be enormous—doubtless averaging ninety bushels per acre. Potatoes, navy or white beans, together with minor esculents, will yield equal to any former precedent.

I regret, however, that this pleasing picture has its reverse side. To briefly illustrate: While our farmers are rejoicing over the now almost certain fact of soon seeing every barn, crib and cellar filled to their utmost capacity with the various field, orchard and garden products, the momentous question, "What are we to do with the abundant crop of 1861?" begins to assume a somewhat grave aspect. With no prospects of an active demand for American breadstuffs abroad, and with this wide-spread rebellion—accompanied by the complete stoppage of a Southern outlet for their produce—staring them in the face, our farmers can see no prospect of obtaining such prices for their surplus crops as will even remunerate them for their summer's toil, to say nothing of profits. These prospects are indeed disheartening; still, the certain probabilities are now, that not only the farmers of Adams county, but of the entire West, will cheerfully acquiesce in such measures as will most speedily and effectually crush out this detestable rebellion and effect the full re-establishment of the Government, even should it cost them not only the present abundant crop, but a dozen more of equal value. Thus, we find our people not only willing to furnish their quota of heroic defenders of their country's rights, but those remaining at home are as willing to suffer pecuniarily, even to the verge of utter ruin. So, too, with the merchants, manufacturers and workingmen of Quincy, all of whom are now suffering unparalleled financial embarrassments or stagnated business reverses. Thus, while sending forward company after company of our most promising young and middle aged men, to put down that monster, "secession," the remaining citizens, including our par excellently *union* devoted women and "red, white and blue" loving children, are perfectly contented to patiently endure present adversities, until such times as the mighty but benignant powers of the Government shall have been irrefragibly established. These high and holy purposes, these self-sacrificing and ennobling deeds, constitute true patriotism, in its broadest, most comprehensive and tangibly practical forms.

Quincy having been designated as one of the main stations or rendezvousing points for Illinois and Iowa troops, the city not unfrequently presents the appearance of a vast military camp, as regiment after regiment arrives here for the purpose of awaiting orders to move forward as positive secession quellers in Missouri, Arkansas, or wherever else most needed. As a consequence of all this marching and counter-marching, some of our enterprising manufacturers have obtained contracts for making soldier equipments, while a few merchants and general traders have secured contracts for furnishing provisions, etc., etc. These facts, taken in connection with that of paying off the troops—which occasionally happens at this "military establishment"—has slightly relieved a portion of our people from the great pecuniary sufferings of the day.

But the blessed Angel of Hope is again unfolding his snow-white wings. The war-surcharged skies are slowly brightening. Gleams of living light are beginning to flash Westward and Northward from South of the Potomac.

When taking up my pen, I proposed giving a succinct sketch of the present troubles in Missouri, coupled with a brief notice of their effects upon this part of Illinois; but, inasmuch as this rambling and too disjointed letter has already exceeded all proper or even premeditated limits, I will close, by assuring the readers of the RURAL NEW-YORKER that—should the Editor of said paper interpose no objections—I shall esteem it as a great pleasure to again jot down a few scattered thoughts for their amusement.

Quincy, Ill., July 23, 1861. OCCIDENTAL.

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TO PREVENT POSTS FROM HEAVING.

MUCH has been written in regard to this subject—many inquiries having been made and answered—yet no very satisfactory results have been obtained. A neighbor tells us he bores through the bottom of the post, puts in a stout pin, and places a large stone on each side. Another says, fill the post hole for a foot or more at the top, with stone; while a third states that he uses three boards, and throws up a ridge of earth eighteen or twenty inches. The author of the "*Young Farmers' Manual*"—S. E. TODD—says the best remedy is to cut a notch in the post about four inches from the bottom, and ram the dirt well into the notches, or place stones in them. This is given as a most effectual remedy. Posts heave by the action of frost on the ground around them, where it is thoroughly saturated with water. On ground drained either naturally or artificially, they never heave.

A few years since we were obliged to replace a fence, a portion of which ran through a wet, heavy soil, where water stood for a good portion of the year. The posts were driven, swampy part *drained*, and at the present writing—four years from that time—they scarcely show a perceptible change. The drain was cut within five or six feet of the fence, and hardly thirty inches deep. This is a decided benefit; we drain the land and prevent our posts from heaving. It is seldom necessary to fence where it is impossible to drain; but where this is not practicable we would use three boards, and throw up a ridge of earth on each side, eighteen or twenty inches high—driving the posts when we set them—as they seem to heave less, and are driven to their places with less trouble when they do heave.

We do not advance these statements for "Constant Reader" to follow to the letter, but only as a few facts that have come under our observation and experience. A.

Genoa, N. Y., 1861.

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ANOTHER SHEEP SHEARING.

NOTICING in the RURAL of July 20th, the shearing of Mr. DAVID T. BOWEN'S "model little flock of sheep," I am prepared to give, as he requests, facts and figures about a shearing I attended June 28th, 1861, of Mr. I. T. WHEELOCK'S flock of Spanish Merino Ewes, 56 in number, 38 of which raised lambs, and the remainder of the flock yearlings. These sheep were fed straw until the 15th of March, and hay afterwards, with one gill of peas a day per head. They were well washed. Weight of fleeces averaged as follows:—Heaviest ewes' fleece, 10 lbs.; heaviest yearlings, 8 lbs. 8 ozs.; lightest, do., 6 lbs. 12 ozs.; average of ewes per head, 7 lbs. 5 ozs.; do. of yearlings 7 lbs. 8 ozs.

I would not forget to mention a flock of 10, worthy of note, owned J. F. STARR, of Leicester, purchased last fall from Mr. W. They were fed hay, together with one gill of grain a day, per head; heaviest fleece 12¼ lbs.; average per head 9½ lbs. I think if our friend Mr. C., of Wyoming Co., whose sheep shearing was noticed in the RURAL, (I think June 29th,) would have the kindness to send Mr. W. one of his patterns for sheep blankets, to protect *his* sheep from the storm, he may perhaps *equal*, if not *surpass*, his account by another year; for Mr. W. has always been of the opinion that "rain should fall both on the just and the unjust." LOVER OF FINE SHEEP.

Leicester, N. Y., July, 1861.

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Rural Spirit of the Press.

Weather-Proof Nails.

A WRITER in the "*Field Notes*" recommends nails prepared in the following manner, for fastening roof boards, weather boards, and other places where it is difficult to make a nail hold:—Take ten-penny malleable nails, and place the head in a vise; with a pair of pincers seize the nail near the point, twist it half way round, make the twist somewhat elongated. In driving, the nail becomes a screw, and neither sun nor hammer can draw it.

On the Construction of Cisterns.

THE attention of the French Academy has been directed by M. Grimaud to the plan followed in Venice for the construction of cisterns; and he recommends it strongly to the attention of those whom it may concern.

There are in Venice over two thousand cisterns, which supply the city with pure, good water. Their construction may be briefly stated as follows:—In the first place, a hole is dug about ten feet deep, (the nature of the soil at Venice prevents a greater depth,) and in the shape of an inverted truncated pyramid. The earth surrounding the sides is kept in its place by a strong wooden frame, which cover also the bottom of the cistern. Upon this is applied a layer of fine, well compacted clay, the thickness of which is in proportion to the size of the cistern, but never over a foot. On the middle part of the bottom is laid a circular stone, hollowed out in the center. On this is erected a hollow cylinder, of the diameter of an ordinary well, built on dry bricks, well laid, and those at the bottom being pierced with conical holes. This cylinder comes a little above the level of the soil. The space between the cylinder and the clay walls of the pyramid is filled with well washed sand up to the level of the clay walls. Before covering the whole with the pavement, there is laid at each angle a sort of stone box, the cover of which, also of stone, is pierced with holes. These boxes, called *cassetoni*, are joined with each other by a small canal of dry bricks, resting in the sand. When it rains, the water enters by the *cassetoni*, penetrates into the sand by the jointures of the bricks of the canals, and finds its level in the interior of the cylindrical well, having passed through the little holes at the bottom. A cistern so constructed is said to give very pure water, and to retain it perfectly to the last drop.

Keep out the Chess.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Illinois *Farmer* issues a caution to his brother farmers, which it will be well for them to heed. He says:

IN sowing winter wheat and rye, great care should be taken that no chess is allowed in the seed. Four years since we sowed some thirty acres of white wheat, which contained a small percentage of chess. The land on which this grew has been in hoed crops since, and well cultivated, and the chess continues to come up year after year as though the supply was exhaustless. Some persons contend that chess will not grow; but to all such we would say, don't allow yourselves to believe any such nonsense. The envelope on the chess is hard, and requires moisture and warmth to induce it to germinate. If sown in a dry soil or moderately moist one, where the wheat will come up, the chess will often remain dormant; but the late fall rains generally give it a start, however small, so that if the wheat is winter killed, it will fill up the vacant spaces; but if the wheat is not injured, the chess is so shaded that it amounts to nothing more than a sickly growth, yet it will mature enough seed to keep up the supply. If you have no mill, winnow it out in the wind, or wash it out in brine, but we beg of you not to sow it on any condition.

Ditching with a Plow.

IT is often said that, "where there's a will, there's a way;" and if American farmers have a will to drain off the superfluous water from their farms, there can be little doubt that they will find, or make a way, to do so. The following experiment in the ditching line by a New Hampshire farmer is reported in the *Journal of Agriculture*:

In the first place, I plow two furrows, and throw them out; this makes the ditch wide enough at the top. I then plow two more and throw them out. The ditch is then twelve or fifteen inches deep, and one ox can no longer walk in it with the other on the surface. I then take a stout piece of timber, say five or six inches square, (a round stick would do as well) and twelve or fifteen feet long. I then lay it across the ditch and hitch a yoke of oxen on each end, so that the timber serves as a long whiffletree, with the plow chained in the middle; and as the ditch grows deeper, the chain is let out longer. In this way, there would be no trouble in plowing six feet deep. The only difficulty is, in keeping the oxen nearly abreast, as it is new work for them. But by taking light furrows at first, they soon learn. I use for this purpose one of the iron beam "Washington" plows, as they are called. It requires a new point, or one as good as new. After running the plow through two or three times, throw out the loose earth, and plow again.

Rye for Feeding Sheep.

A WRITER in the Illinois *Farmer* thus relates how a friend of his escaped financial difficulties:—Rye is one of the most valuable of the green feeds for sheep. A friend of ours, an amateur farmer, who has his means all locked up in real estate, but who is determined to make it pay his expenses in spite of the hard times for all the real estate speculators, inclosed four hundred acres, which he rents out on shares, the most of which has been cultivated in corn since the crash of 1857. Beginning to fear that his third of the corn crop would not pay his taxes on some thousands of acres of wild land, with his other expenses, he applied to his arithmetic, which convinced him that a thousand good mutton sheep would help him out; so after the corn was laid by he persuaded one of his tenants to allow him to sow some thirty acres of rye among the corn. His thousand sheep were purchased in August, herded wherever he could find feed until the corn was ripe, when they were turned on the young rye, which was their principal feed until the first of June, when it was turned under and planted to corn. A portion of the crop was well fed down, but had it not been for the standing corn stalks, a respectable crop could have been harvested from a part of the field. Here was the large part of the feed of a thousand sheep for eight months, costing twelve dollars for the seed and about the same for labor, and returning the land in far better condition than it was before, no doubt to the extent of the seed and labor. We have never seen a lot of sheep and lambs at this season in so good condition as this rye fed flock.

The flock is now on the prairie, and will remain there until his meadow is ready to turn into, when the rye pasture will be repeated. He will clear at least fifteen hundred dollars the first year in this operation, the result of brains in farming.

Lousy Wheat.

SOME alarm has been felt by a few farmers in this vicinity, says the Boston *Cultivator*, in consequence of the appearance, on the growing wheat, of an insect unknown to them. It is nothing more than a species of aphis, or plant louse. We have often seen it on wheat before, but never in such numbers as it has appeared this season. Our attention was first called to it on a field of wheat belonging to Hon. W. H. Fisher, of Franklin, since which we have received from S. W. Richardson, Esq., of the same town, a package of wheat-heads on which the insect was very numerous; and we have received from Rev. C. C. Sewall, of Medfield, and E. R. Andrews, Esq., of West Roxbury, specimens of the insect, with statements in regard to its attack on the wheat.

The insect is found on the head of the wheat, sheltered somewhat by the beard and chaff, and lives by sucking the sap. We have never known it abundant enough before to do much damage. How much damage it will do in the cases alluded to, remains to be seen, though it is probable that such numbers as are found, in some instances, must deprive the grain, more or less, of the nourishment it requires. It should be remarked that it is *spring* wheat that is affected, and the insect is most numerous, and will do most damage on that which is most backward. Indeed the most forward fields are already well out of the way,—the straw having considerably turned and the heads become pretty well filled before the insect appeared to much extent. The insect seems to be most numerous on the borders of fields, and it is not improbable that even in cases where it is most abundant, it may not have spread much over the crops.

The aphis is accompanied by many species of flies, and sometimes by ants, which are looked upon with suspicion by some persons; but they have no designs on the wheat, their object being to obtain the sweet exudations of the aphis, which appear in the form of what is sometimes called "honey-dew."

As to a remedy, about which inquiry is made, we can propose none. The best means of destroying the aphis, are probably their own natural enemies, among which is the six-spotted lady-bird (or bug,) that we have already seen, in one or two instances, making havoc with the wheat-lice.

Rural Notes and Items.

THE SEASON AND CROPS.—August opened with excessively hot weather—the temperature of the first four or five days being the highest of the season. Corn and other crops have improved greatly within the week past, and farmers are correspondingly encouraged. During a flying trip, last week, through portions of Livingston, Steuben, Chemung, Yates, Ontario, &c., we noticed and learned that the crop prospects were very favorable—much better than had been anticipated through the early part of summer. The wheat crop of this region, now mostly secured in good order, exceeds the general expectation, in both amount and quality.

According to the *Cleveland Herald*, the present wheat crop of Northern Ohio is the best yield of the last ten years—thirty and forty bushels per acre being realized in many instances. Oats, too, are said to be very heavy, while grass, on new meadows, is good. There is time enough yet (it adds) for corn.

The *Michigan Farmer*, speaking of the wheat crop, says:—"Our crop throughout this State has not only ripened without any disaster occurring to it, and with much fewer complaints than we have had for many years, but it also has had the advantage of the most favorable weather to be harvested. So that the whole crop will be not only large in quantity, but also its quality will be first-rate."

Crop reports from other Western States are generally encouraging. After giving numerous extracts from its Western exchanges respecting the condition and prospects of the crops, the *Chicago Journal* says,—"It will be seen that the prospects are not altogether as flattering as was expected. While, in some localities, the drouth has retarded the growth of the grain, in others the army worm and the rust have had an unfavorable effect. Taken as the whole, however, there is every reason to expect at least a full average wheat crop, and more than an average crop of corn, the present year, in the Northwest."

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ABOUT CONDENSED MILK.—A correspondent wishes information concerning the *modus operandi* of preparing condensed milk. We cannot answer definitely, but refer him and others interested to Mr. GAIL BORDEN, Jr., of Wassaic, Dutchess Co., N. Y., for information. In the last number of the Journal of our State Ag. Society, Col. JOHNSON thus speaks of the operations of the "N. Y. Condensed Milk Co.," at Wassaic:—"We visited the establishment of the Company, about eight miles from Mr. THORNE's, on the Harlem Railroad, with Mr. JONATHAN and Mr. SAMUEL THORNE. We were very kindly received by Mr. GAIL BORDEN, Jr., the superintendent of the work and the patentee of the preparations there made. The works were in fine order, and we witnessed the process, from the milk from the cow until prepared for market. It is *new milk*, fresh from the cow, with 75 per cent. of water evaporated from it. This is done by steam; and the public who use this have *real milk*, and nothing else, and can add water to it, suited to their taste. It is already delivered in New York and Brooklyn to more than 3,000 families—is recommended by a great number of physicians as superior to all other milk sent to market. The day we were at the works they were preparing upward of 1,000 quarts of milk, delivered that morning—somewhat less than the average quantity. The Company have another establishment at Burrville, Litchfield county, Ct. The establishment is open to the inspection of all, there being no necromancy about the matter, but the process being simply what is above stated. Neatness reigns predominant throughout the entire establishment, and is one reason doubtless of the great popularity of the milk sent from these works. A small pamphlet accompanies the milk, giving directions how to use it and how to keep it, and statements of its value and cheapness."

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CUT WORM AND CORN GRUB KILLER.—Dr. ASA FITCH, the Entomologist of the N. Y. State Agricultural Society, writes to Secretary JOHNSON some account of the foe of the cut worm. He says:—"I doubt not you have noticed in plowed fields a large black beetle, with most brilliant golden dots placed in rows on its back. It is the *Calosoma calidum* of entomologists, and its eggs produce the *corn grub killer*, of which you send a specimen in the tin box. It is a most inveterate foe of the cut worm, grasping the worm in its strong jaws, and in spite of its violent writhing and struggling, securely holding it, and when it finds these worms in plenty, it gorges and surfeits itself upon them till it is so glutted and distended it is scarcely able to stir—for it never knows how to let a cut worm alone when it meets with one. It is continually hunting these worms, feeding on nothing else, if it can obtain them. Both it and the golden dotted beetle which produces it, therefore, should never be harmed."

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GONE TO THE WAR!—The RURAL office has furnished a "bold dragoon" for the War—Mr. CHAS. G. VAN SCHUYVER, one of our best compositors, having joined Col. VAN ALLEN'S cavalry regiment, and entered upon the sacred soil of the Old Dominion. CHARLIE is plucky and patriotic; and, though not as large as some of his associates, the "little corporal" has mind and muscle enough to figure and fight to the best advantage. In a close encounter, the F. F. V.'s may find him a tough customer. May he fight the good fight for the Union most valiantly, and return safely, covered with glory and honor. ☞ The "Boys" endorse and send greeting to their "able representative" on the "tented field."

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COTTON AND WOOL.—The Cleveland Wool Depot Co.'s Circular for the present month says:—"The active demand for coarse wool, which has characterized the trade for the last month, still continues, and at full prices, with the prospect that the incoming clip of coarse and medium will be eagerly sought for, whilst there is no demand for fine, except at prices paid for inferior grades. The highest price we have heard paid for the new clip is forty cents. Merchants and wool growers probably know that this change is brought about by the entire capacity of the machinery being taxed to manufacture government goods. We shall therefore expect to see fine wools neglected for two or three months. No cotton can now be had from the South, and how far this will influence the use of all wool where cotton has been used in part, or as a substitute, cannot be stated, but the presumption is that the want of it will favorably affect the trade in wool."

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COTTON IN INDIA.—Mr. Edward A. Newton, of Pittsfield, Mass., who resided many years in India, has some very interesting statements in the *Pittsfield Eagle* on the supply of cotton from the East. He quotes the following extract from a letter written by Mr. W. F. Stearns, son of President Stearns, of Amherst College, who is a merchant in Bombay, India, dated the 12th of April:—"I went into the interior a few weeks since as far as Sholapore, and found that the natives throughout the country had heard of the troubles in America, and that the amount of land which had been laid out and planted by them with cotton was somewhat astounding. My word for it, founded on personal observation, if the secession movement continues, in five years India will export 4,000,000 bales. The quality is constantly improving, and the means of transportation are becoming so easy that the South will not be able to command the monopoly of the staple out of the Union."

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AMERICA AT THE NEXT WORLD'S FAIR.—A resolution has passed the Senate and House of Representatives appropriating $2,000, in order that the President may adopt measures to insure a representation of the United States at the next World's Fair, to be held in London, in 1862. A representative should be appointed as soon as possible, in order that he may make arrangements for the space required by American exhibitors. We do not expect that there will be many exhibitors from our country, but those who do go should be provided with good positions, and the means to make a display creditable to our people. The building for the World's Fair is now in the course of erection, and it is going up with that rapidity and system which were observed in the first Crystal Palace. It is expected that the exhibition will surpass all that has preceded it in the character of the mechanism and articles entered for competition.—*Scientific American.*

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VENTILATION FOR HAY MOWS.—Large mows of hay or grain it is often very desirable to ventilate, particularly during the summer. We see occasionally contrivances suggested in the agricultural newspapers, but none so convenient and practicable as the following, which we have used with entire success. Fill a rather narrow two-bushel bag with hay pressed in tight; set this up in the middle of the bay or mow, or where the ventilation is needed, and as the mow rises, never let the bag get out of sight, and take a little pains to tread down the hay around it. When it is nearly covered up, draw it up half its length; and so proceeding you will have a channel or flue from bottom to top. Then give the boys the fun of working a burrow in from the floor to the flue, and forbid their climbing up in it, and you will have a good ventilator enough, if you will only keep the top open.—*Homestead.*

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WEEDS should never be permitted to mature their seed on a farm, but be pulled up or cut down as often as they show themselves, such being the only effectual method of eradicating them. To insure this result, the ground should be planted in corn, and that kept clean.—*Ex.*

The News Condenser.

— The new Sultan will not be 21 till September.

— It costs $5,000 to graduate at Oxford College.

— Twenty five gun boats are to be built for the Western rivers.

— The Empress of Austria is not expected to live much longer.

— The dry-goods stores at the South are almost destitute of stocks.

— Cannel coal has been discovered in the Northern part of Minnesota.

— Col. Cameron, killed at Bull Run, was a brother of Secretary Cameron.

— Fifty five companies of Home Guards paraded at Pittsburg on the Fourth.

— The tolls on the N. Y. canals to July 1st exceed those of last year $212,180.

— The New York Herald calls Gen. McClellan "the Napoleon of the present war."

— Since the opening of navigation, 4,410 steamers and sail vessels have passed Detroit.

— The Great Eastern left Quebec for Europe on the 6th inst., with a cargo of lumber.

— The U. S. Government is in the market for a large number of horses, said to be 70,000.

— Building is going on in New York quite extensively, notwithstanding the hard times.

— Nearly two millions of New York Central Railroad stock is held in the New England States.

— Brig. Gen. Kearney is to take command of the New Jersey volunteers now at Washington.

— It has been decided not to admit children under five years into the Boston Public Schools.

— The Hon. Wm. H. Dimmick, ex-Member of Congress, died at Honesdale, Pa., on the 2d inst.

— The House Committee on army frauds is to sit during the recess of Congress with full powers.

— Union men are flying in large numbers from Eastern Virginia to avoid the rebel conscription.

— Austria, at last accounts, was about to re-commence a very repressive system against Hungary.

— New York has 214 churches, Philadelphia 240, Baltimore 99, Boston 94, Cincinnati 73, Chicago 67.

— Hunt's Merchant's Magazine estimates the crop of maple sugar for the current year at 28,000 tons.

— The Richmond Enquirer says that a fatal case of cholera has occurred at Camp Lee, near that city.

— A mechanic of Hartford, Conn., has invented a machine which will make 100,000 slate pencils per day.

— The British press speaks of Mr. Adams, the new American Minister, in a very complimentary manner.

— Thirteen of the officers in the Third Wisconsin regiment have been in active service in the Mexican war.

— Twenty thousand men are said to be thrown out of employment on the rivers by the embargo at Cairo.

— About 35 glass furnaces have been stopped near Charleroi, Belgium, in consequence of the crisis in America.

— The wife of Professor Longfellow met with a horrible death, a few days since, by her clothes taking fire.

— The Missouri river has been blockaded by General Lyon. Boats bound down are now stopped at Leavenworth.

— The population of New York State by the official census is 3,887,542, of the wards of New York city, 805,657.

— The New York Post protests against putting a duty on sugars for the benefit of the rebel State of Louisiana.

— The rebels at Manassas claim to have forty-two federal officers and twelve medical men among their prisoners.

— A sturgeon weighing sixty eight pounds was caught in the Erie canal at Newark, Wayne Co., a few days since.

— The Long Bridge over the Potomac is to be reconstructed, so that it will be more available for military operations.

— Parson Brownlow's paper has been designated to publish the laws of Congress, to be passed at the present session.

— Major Taylor, the recent bearer of a flag of truce from the rebels to Washington, is a son of Gen. Zachary Taylor.

— The assessed value of real estate in New York city for the present year is $406,055,665, and personal $164,624,306.

— A convict in the State Prison at Auburn has been detected in the act of manufacturing counterfeit coin in his cell.

— About five thousand dollars have been raised in Washington for the erection of a monument to Senator Douglas.

— The law prohibiting the sale of intoxicating drinks to soldiers in Washington, has passed both Houses of Congress.

— One hundred and seventy volunteer companies have tendered their services in the State of Iowa for active service.

— The New York Life Insurance Company have just contributed $5,000 to the funds of the Army Sanitary Commission.

— San Francisco papers mention the shock of an earthquake which was felt along the Pacific coast on the 30th of June.

— According to the last census, the details of which have just been made up, the population of Spain is 15,659,000 souls.

— Six platform cars, fully loaded with cannon carriages, passed westward on the 2d inst., said to be destined for St. Louis.

— Dickinson College, Pa., has conferred the degree of LL. D. on Hon. Edward Bates, Attorney General of the United States.

— The piratical steamer Sumter, now cruising in the Gulf of Mexico, was built at Montreal for Jeff. Davis by a Mr. Cantlo.

— It is calculated that there are from one thousand to fifteen hundred acres of strawberries within ten miles of London.

— A candy dealer of Liverpool advertises himself as the supplier of "old genuine original Everton taffee to her Majesty."

— Toombs has resigned his position as Secretary of State of the C. S. A., and is succeeded by R. M. T. Hunter, of Virginia.

— Count Sanmartino has resigned the King's Lieutenancy at Naples, and General Cialdini has been appointed his successor.

— Ohio now contains 2,343,739 inhabitants, including 34,849 colored; a gain of 350,270 in ten years, and an increase of over 20 per cent.

— The total number of vessels employed in trade and commerce in Great Britain, exclusive of river steamers, is 20,019, of 4,251,789 tons.

— Gen. Scott is to have the sole control of all future military movements. This will relieve a portion of the press of much responsibility.

— Chicago contains, at the present time, forty million bushels of grain, the largest quantity ever stored in one place in this country.

— Eli Thayer's colony in Western Virginia is spoken of as in miserable condition. Settlers are too much distracted to attend to their crops.

— The Troy Times states that Gen. Wool has three times, during the present war, been nominated by Gen. Scott for important commands.

— The London correspondent of the Chicago Journal writes "I hear that the Confederate Commissioners are at Paris, and *out of money!*"

— Bull Run forms the boundary between Fairfax and Prince William counties until it enters the Occoquan river, 14 miles from its mouth.

— Richard [illegible] Morris, aged 98, died at his residence in Pittsylvania Co., Va., on the 30th ult. Deceased was at the surrender of Yorktown.

— One hundred and seventy mules, 4 hands high, and costing the Government $100 each, passed through Cincinnati on Thursday last for the East.

— Slave property is said to be falling and uncertain in Missouri. Negroes that brought $1,000 last year are to-day not worth over one-third that sum.

HORTICULTURAL.

THE VEGETABLE GARDEN.

FEW realize the importance of the KITCHEN GARDEN. Not one in a dozen of the farmers we visit have even a respectable garden, devoted to the growing of vegetables and the smaller fruits, so necessary for family use. Perhaps it would not be profitable for the farmer to devote his time to the making of hot-beds, and the growing of the early and nice things, so highly prized by the gardener, some of which would require considerable experience and skill to ensure success, but every farmer, and every one who has even a few rods of ground, may have a good vegetable garden that, with very little labor and expense, will furnish a delicious succession of vegetables and fruits during the summer, and leave a good store for winter use. Lettuce, radishes, peas, early potatoes, cucumbers, cabbage, cauliflower, tomatoes, beets, carrots, celery, rhubarb, strawberries, raspberries, currants, melons, and the like, may be grown by any person of ordinary experience, in the greatest perfection. And yet we see on many farms, and even village-lots, ground enough running to waste—growing foul weeds to be scattered all over the neighborhood—to produce all this grand array of good things, while the owners are suffering for these necessaries, and spending their money to purchase the everlasting beef-steak and bread, or living almost entirely on soldiers' rations.

We love flowers and lawns, but there are few sights more pleasing to us than a well-kept vegetable garden, where everything is grown in perfection. We have no sympathy, therefore, with the common notion of hiding the vegetable garden by hedges or screens. It is our delight and our pride, and we take as much delight in exhibiting one cauliflower as any flower in the garden—not excepting even the newest and rarest.

What a grand succession of vegetables Providence has provided for our enjoyment. First we have our lettuce and radishes, and then, when we begin to tire of these, the cucumbers. Peas are followed by the luscious Lima beans and sweet corn, and early cabbage and cauliflower, while a dozen other things help to make up a glorious variety. Who that has really enjoyed a full supply of melons would be willing to pass a summer without their refreshing presence. Any plain dinner is good enough for warm weather, if succeeded by a good watermelon and two or three nutmegs. A good garden is the most necessary and most profitable part of any home.

But, notwithstanding the growing of vegetables is so simple, many fail, from the neglect of two or three things essential to success. In the first place the soil must be deep and well-drained, so that water will not lay on the surface nor within two or three feet of it, during a wet time, longer than necessary to pass through the soil by natural or artificial drainage. It must be mellow, so that it will not become packed and baked by rains and sun. This is the foundation on which we must depend for success, and if we have not such a soil naturally, every dollar expended to secure it is well invested, while every cent and all time spent on a cold, heavy, wet soil, is so much time and money wasted. Vegetables will not thrive on such ground. It is true soil in this condition is often used, and that is one reason why so many fail. The soil for a vegetable garden should be well pulverized at least two feet in depth. This is not necessary every year—once in two or three years will answer. Other seasons, dig only the ordinary depth.

It is useless to try to grow vegetables on a poor, half-starved soil. Therefore use manure freely, and there is little danger of being too liberal. For potatoes, corn, and the like, fresh manure from the stable will answer, but for more tender plants the manure should be well rotted. Form a pile of fresh manure in some corner of the garden; on this throw all weeds, the scrapings from the walks and all refuse, together with the slops from the house. Occasionally fork it over, and you will have a nice compost, always ready, that will be excellent for celery trenches, the onion bed, and for any purpose where a good manure is wanted.

Get the very best seeds that can be obtained. New and improved vegetables are introduced every year or two, and the first cost is of but little consequence. Yet little attention is paid to this matter. The man who will ransack all the nurseries in the country for a particular variety of pears or apples, and take special pains to obtain the best of seed wheat or oats, never inquires for the best varieties of peas, or lettuce, or cauliflower—anything will do; and the old Drumhead is the only winter cabbage he knows or cares anything about.

A little regard to these brief hints, will insure many of our friends much better gardens than they have before had, and conduce much to their comfort and peace of mind as well as to their good living; and at the same time elevate them in our estimation several degrees.

NOTES IN THE FLOWER GARDEN.

SEVERAL fine showers during the past two weeks, and the warm weather usual to the season, have added much to the beauty of the flower garden. All plants are making a rapid growth. Most of the herbaceous plants are now out of flower, and the annuals furnish the principal adornment of the garden.

Ten-Week Stocks that were set out early, are now in flower. Many mistake by allowing this flower to get too large before transplanting. They should be set out when very small, and the earlier in the spring the better, for if this is not done until the weather is dry and hot, they will almost immediately run into flower, while the bloom will be poor.

There is no more showy or beautiful annual than the Balsam, if properly treated. If set out early in a very rich, deep soil, and the side shoots are kept pinched off, they will grow three feet in height, the stalk being entirely surrounded with flowers, like a wreath. Liquid manure is a great help, and where fine flowers are wished, should be given three or four times.

The Dwarf Convolvulus is a valuable annual, growing some 18 inches or more in height. They are mostly three-colored, blue, white and yellow, but some are a rich purple and others striped. Splendens bears flowers as large as the common Morning Glory, and Monstrous still larger. For a shady border there is nothing better.

For some purposes, there is nothing equal to the old favorite, the Sweet Pea. They are now of every shade of color, from the darkest blue and purple to pure white, striped and shaded and flaked in every imaginable manner. In visiting the garden of the late SELAH MATHEWS, we observed at a distance a long hedge covered with flowers, and on hastening for a nearer examination, we found it to be a hedge of Sweet Peas, of mixed colors, supported by two rows of sticks made in the manner of a neat rustic fence. Nothing could be prettier. Mr. JAMES CRAIG, the intelligent and gentlemanly gardener, informed us that such hedges are very popular in Scotland.

Another very beautiful bed, and really the finest display we have seen the present season, is a bed of Portulacca, about twenty feet by forty in length, divided into narrow strips, about two feet wide, by narrow lines of Double Dwarf Larkspurs. It is impossible to conceive of a more brilliant display, perfectly dazzling in the bright sun. This we found on the premises of JOSEPH HALL, Esq., the work of his ingenious gardener, JOHN CHARLTON, who has many fine things, obtained on a trip to Europe last winter. By the by, the Portulaccas are almost invaluable in our climate, to which they seem exactly suited. They are now to be had of almost every color, and some of the striped varieties we obtained from Prussia last autumn are exceedingly fine.

The question has been asked us, if we could have but one annual, which we would select. We dislike to answer such questions, because we never feel like being placed in such an unpleasant position. But we can say that there is nothing we like better than the Annual Phloxes. We have a dozen varieties, all exceedingly beautiful, including Radowitzii, which we noticed a week or two since, of every color, from pure white to dark purple, with eyes as bright as those of the gazelle. The Phloxes commence to flower in July, and continue until frost, and the beauty is well sustained until the last. The more they are cut the more freely they flower.

Calliopsis cardaminifolia hybrida is not as good as it should be, considering the praise it received from parties in Europe last season, and the high price we paid for seed.

Podolepsis affinis, a new variety, and said to be the best of the family, is now in flower. It answers expectations, and we may give a drawing in a week or two.

ACROCLINIUM.

The EVERLASTING FLOWERS are flowering freely, and we are saving them for winter use. They should be gathered in the forenoon, a few each day, as they reach perfection, tied up in small bunches, and hung up out of the way of dust and flies. The first to flower, and one of the most delicate and beautiful, is the Acroclinium, of which we give a drawing. There are two varieties, white and pink. The Helichrysum and the Gomphrenas, and others, are fast coming into flower.

We are cultivating a great variety of Ornamental Grasses. Some are good, while others prove similar to our native kinds, and are worse than worthless in the garden. *Eragrostis elegans* seems to be our common *Panicum capillare*. But of these grasses we will speak further hereafter.

THE SEEDLING NUISANCE.

Now that the season of pomological gatherings is approaching, we warn our friends against the unnecessary introduction of "new seedlings."

Many fruit raisers seem to have well studied Gulliver, and to have imbibed the maxim of one of his heroes, that "he who makes two blades of grass to grow where only one grew before, is a human benefactor." But our friends seem to forget that this must have applied to the kingdom of Brobdignag, and that the multiplication of fruit "blades" in the shape of seedlings with Lilliputian qualities, is the least desirable of all our wants.

When we look over our fruit catalogues of the few past years, and note the magnitude of the "seedling list" now discarded as worthless, it is painful to reflect on how much money, time, and labor have been thrown away on them. It is not that we have been swindled, or that in most cases there has been any design to inflict worthless varieties on the public, but the evil arises from the public not knowing the characteristics of a good fruit, or the raiser's not knowing how much an accidental and local circumstance has to do with a local reputation.

The foundation of a good character in a fruit should be a *good, hardy, vigorous constitution*—one that will resist our heats and drouths, and come out scathless from our severe wintry ordeals. Entirely too much prominence has been given to nice shades of flavor,—shades frequently so delicate that a vote of a hundred palates would scarce indicate a majority of one in favor of any two favorites.

A fruit is sent to the *Gardener's Monthly*, or to a Committee of Some Horticultural Society; the flavor may be excellent, and we or the Committee be honestly bound to say so; but as it is the only important quality that is up for judgment, it may have many other defects that would render it worthless notwithstanding, and we are desirous that the public should receive the opinions in such cases given at only their exact worth. On the other hand, a really valuable fruit is often rejected or has to fight its way through legions of enemies, merely because the first decisions of good judges were that it was "not of good flavor." The cases of the Concord Grape and Albany Seedling Strawberry are in point. Inferior in mere flavor as they may be conceded to be, they are the type of all that is valuable in the classes that claim them, and the models on which we may expect future improvements.

Nothing but experimental gardens in two or three sections of the Union will ever save to the country the immense sums now squandered on inferior varieties. It is, of course, out of the question to urge this matter now, but we hope our readers will bear it in mind when peace and prosperity return. In the mean time, our friends will understand that when we or others pronounce a fruit "as the best flavored we have tasted this season," it may be very far from being a valuable variety, and that there are a great many other points to be considered before we venture to encourage another risk of a "seedling nuisance."—*Gardener's Monthly.*

IMPORTANCE OF TIMELY CULTURE.

IN a climate and soil like ours, spontaneous fruitfulness can never be expected. There are doubtless choice positions where a few trees or vegetables, having once taken root, will grow luxuriantly and produce bountifully; and, although without the elementary constituents of plants existing in the soil, no culture, however wise, can make vegetation flourish; yet, in any tolerable soil the prosperity of a crop depends quite as much on the wisdom of the culture as on the inherent quality of the soil.

There is, however, not only a special importance in *culture* but also in *early* culture. Suppose a hill of corn, or one of cucumbers, neglected until the one is a foot high and the other has made vines a foot long. They are already perhaps one week behind their neighbors in similar soil, but enjoying timely culture. The effort to clear away the weeds from either of these hills will disturb the roots, while their sudden removal will let in a powerful sun upon a plant already feeble by neglect and injury to the roots. By these means the plant is checked perhaps another week.

But suppose, in a good soil, and with wise though late culture, the plant should perfectly recover its health, and grow to its full expansion. The fruit must set at least two and in some cases three weeks later than otherwise. In the case of very early planted crops, or a long season, they may possibly get ripe, but often not. Thus the result is seen to be exactly equivalent to late planting, and the strong probability is that your crop will mature at a season not the most favorable to its health and productiveness. We see then that one acre of soil receiving *timely* culture, may be as productive as two with *late* culture, while the expense of labor will always be less on the timely than on the untimely. Nor is this all; in the one case the crop may cost more than it is worth, while in the other it will be highly profitable.

I have seen a patch of melons, tomatoes, or pickle cucumbers, and even fields of corn, injured in quantity and quality, not from want of fertility in the soil, nor amount of labor expended upon them, but from the want of timeliness in that labor.

Potatoes seasonably planted, in Central New York, usually gain their utmost expansion and are covered with flowers by the 15th of July. In this case their tubers will be nearly full grown and covered with a firm skin by the first of September. But suppose, in consequence of deferred cultivation, the season of maturity in the tuber should be protracted until late in September. In this case the last two or three weeks of its growth is amid damp, dark, and chilly weather, such as is inconsistent with the healthful elaboration of a tropical plant; it will probably be at least slightly diseased, and so would all other tropical plants.

We reproach the man who by neglect permits a fine litter of pigs or herd of calves to pine and become stunted; but is he less a sinner who with equal carelessness sows or plants more acres than under ordinary circumstances he can wisely cultivate?—C. E. G.

Inquiries and Answers.

GROWING PLANTS FROM SEEDS.—Will you please inform me, through the RURAL, the process of propagating currants, raspberries, and strawberries, from the seed? Will apple seeds, grape seeds, and cherry seeds or pits, germinate before freezing? Tell me, also, if you please, the process of planting potato balls for the propagation of new varieties.—A SUBSCRIBER, *Kingsville, Ohio*, 1861.

As a general rule, the best way is to sow seeds of all the fruits mentioned as soon as they have matured. Nature teaches this course, for the fruit drops as soon as ripe, and the young plants appear the following spring. Nurserymen do not always pursue this course, because the ground is generally in use for other purposes until late in the autumn. Seeds that are put in the ground as soon as ripe should have a good mellow soil that will not bake, or in the spring, or it may be so hard that not half the young plants will be able to get above the ground. If water lays upon it a good part of the winter and spring, the seeds may rot. It is true, nature always sows seeds in the fall, but nature is very provident of seed, and furnishes an hundred where only one can find space to grow. This the planter would not like to do. We know of no better way to save seeds of apples, pears, cherries, and the like, than to put them in boxes of sand, a layer of seed and a layer of sand, or mixed with the sand. They may be kept in the cellar or out-of-doors, if protected from the rain. Strawberry, raspberry, and other seeds that are only sown in small quantities, it is better to put in the ground as soon as gathered. Save the seed from potato balls, keep them in paper bags, in a cool room, until spring, and then sow in rows, in a well prepared bed, which must be kept clean. In the fall, you will have potatoes as large as marbles. These, plant the next spring, and the product will be a large number of rather small potatoes. The next season they will be of good size. We have grown good sized potatoes the second season. Mark and save all that are promising, and throw away the poor.

THE PIE CHERRY.—Is the Richmond Cherry, mentioned by your Western correspondent, synonymous with the Pie Cherry, cultivated so many years in your State? If so, can you inform me how it is propagated? I have tried, and seen others try, sowing the seed soon after gathering; packing in mud, and sowing late in the fall, and frosting, and sowing in the spring, and with uniformly poor success—not more than one pit in a hundred germinating. What is the practice with your nurserymen?—W. BOWEN, *Iowa*, 1861.

Our common Pie Cherry is not the Early Richmond. It is called by DOWNING Late Kentish, and is known commonly as Pie Cherry, Common Red, Sour Cherry, &c. We have never heard of any difficulty in causing the pits of this cherry to vegetate when sown in the autumn, or kept in sand through the winter. Trees can be had of most of our nurserymen, but are not grown extensively.

GRAPES ROTTING, &c.—Please inform me what will prevent grapes from rotting before they are ripe. Also, the best time to set grapes, currants, and gooseberry slips.—A YOUNG RURALIST, *Princeville, Ill.*, 1861.

The rotting of grapes is a disease very difficult to account for or cure. A well drained, deep soil, and judicious but not too severe pruning, is the best preventive we are acquainted with. Early in the spring, just as soon as the ground can be got in order, is the best for cuttings of all kinds. Late in the autumn would be still better, were it not for the heaving by frost, which will misplace and injure them, unless the soil is well drained.

THE LARGE, WHITE GRUB.—Do tell us, if you can, what can be done to stop the ravages of the great white grub. He is destroying our strawberry vines—old and young—and when he can't do better, feasts on raw potatoes, grass roots, &c. But when we take especial pains with choice, new varieties of strawberries, by keeping clear of grass and weeds, he adopts the suicidal policy of cutting off and destroying the last source of his own existence.—B.

For several years the large, white grub, with a brown head, the grub of the May Bug, has been doing a good deal of mischief, cutting off plants of nearly all kinds below the surface of the ground. It is more destructive the present season than ever before. In some of our gardens, it is destroying strawberries, verbenas, asters, and other annual flowers. We know of no way to kill them, or to prevent their mischief, but to dig them out.

FUCHSIAS FOR BEDDING.—Will Fuchsias answer for putting out in beds, or in the border, like what are called Bedding Plants?—S. R.

Fuchsias will not endure our hot suns. Darling and Tom Thumb are two of the best for the purpose, and answer pretty well.

FLOWERS FOR NAME.—As you are so good at answering questions, I thought I would ask if you could tell me, through the RURAL, the names of the inclosed specimens. The blue flower grows about a foot high, and the blossoms drop off without withering. It was sent me from Connecticut a couple of years ago without a name. Likes plenty of sun and room, and will thrive and blossom all summer. The pink one came, I think, from Mr. BRIGGS, under the name of Scarlet Lychnis, but seems to me to belong to the Cockle tribe. Though very pretty when in full flower, I do not think it very desirable in a garden, on account of the quantity of seed it ripens, and it is almost impossible to get it out again. It grows very low, and spreads a good deal. A name for one or both will much oblige a constant reader and well wisher of the RURAL. I don't know but I should mention that both flowers are annuals.—A SUBSCRIBER, *Clyde, N. Y.*, 1861.

The blue flower is *Eutoca viscida*, Clammy Eutoca; the pink, a *Silene*, Catch-Fly.

HARDY FLOWERS.—I would like to have you tell me which three or four sorts of flowers are the most hardy and showy. I mean those that need no protection in winter. Where is the best place to procure seed?—M. Y., *Tuscola Co., Mich.*

The Aconitum, Delphinium, or Perennial Larkspur, Chinese Pinks, Picotees, Double Hollyhocks, Paeonies, and Phloxes, are all hardy, showy flowers, and indispensable. Good seeds can be obtained of the leading dealers.

BLIGHT OF APPLE TREES IN WISCONSIN.—I wish to make an inquiry through the columns of your valuable paper for information in regard to the cause and remedy of what I call the blight in fruit trees. I have about six hundred fruit trees set out, of different kinds, the most of which I have raised from seed. Between three and four hundred are now bearing. Last year I had about thirty Russets and other apple trees in bearing. In some, a blight commenced on the leaf, then extended to the twigs, and then to the large limbs. In many cases, only the small twigs would die, leaving a dead spot on the large limbs, and in many other cases, large limbs or branches would die. I cut off from a number of trees all of the branches that I could find affected, but in a few days the trees would present the same appearance again. This year there are some trees affected in the same way. I have examined some of them to find out the cause, but cannot find anything, except in cutting off some small twigs, I would find one or more small holes perforated by some insect to the heart of the limb, the bark turned black, and very watery or juicy between the bark and wood. My orchard has been hoed for a number of years, until the two last years, I sowed it to oats. This year a part of it is in corn and potatoes, the balance I sowed to wheat. Some of the trees are now affected in the corn as well as in the wheat. Now, if you, or any of your numerous readers, can give me any light on the disease, or remedy, or both, it will be thankfully received.—WM. C. W., *Eldorado, Wis.*, 1861.

PROPAGATION OF THE HAWTHORN.—I have been trying for two years to propagate the Hawthorn Hedge plant, without success, and now apply to the RURAL. Will some of your readers please give the desired information?—J. F. T., *Albion, Orleans Co., N. Y.*, 1861.

Horticultural Notes.

OBITUARY.—It is with much regret we announce the sudden death of one of the most enthusiastic amateur horticulturists in this vicinity, SELAH MATHEWS, Esq. Mr. MATHEWS devoted all his spare time to the culture of fruits and flowers, and the study of the best authors on these subjects. His grounds were extensive and well kept, his grape houses in the finest condition, and the conservatory adorned with the most perfect specimens to be found in this section of the State. For several years Mr. M. was President of the Genesee Valley Horticultural Society, and only retired from office about a year since. Last summer he made a trip to Europe, visiting the best horticultural establishments, and part of the time in company of our friend Mr. REID, of New Jersey. His death is a public loss.

About the same time our old friend, THOMAS BILLSLAND, who for many years was in the employ of ELLWANGER & BARRY, died suddenly and unexpectedly of disease of the heart. Mr. B. was a fine specimen of a gentleman. He was advanced in years, and had acquired a vast fund of information, but was so exceedingly modest that few were aware of the rich treasures he possessed. Often have we been indebted to him for information on botanical questions which we could obtain from no other source. We sorely regret and shall often feel his loss.

CUTTING FLOWERS FOR BOUQUETS.—Many are afraid to cut flowers for bouquets, for fear of spoiling the appearance of the plants. It is fortunate that many of the flowers most suitable for bouquets flower the more freely for cutting. It is the formation of seed that exhausts the plant, and by cutting flowers this is prevented. The *Country Gentleman* has the following sensible remarks on the subject:—"It should be remembered that Verbenas, Candytuft, Sweet Alyssum, Phlox Drummondii, and other plants with flowers most suitable for bouquets, do not suffer by the cutting of their flowers, but bloom much better and longer for it. There need therefore be no stinginess in providing bouquets for the house. Cut liberally, and furnish your rooms and your neighbors, if you have enough to spare for them, with sweet and beautiful bouquets."

AUTUMN SEEK-NO-FURTHER APPLE.—I noticed, not long since, inquiries about the origin of the Fall Seek-no-Further. I am satisfied it is not a Western fruit. I saw apples of that variety some forty years ago, on the farm of Judge SPRAGUE, in East Bloomfield, Ontario county. The Judge was from Western Massachusetts, and probably got his scions from there. As his orchard was one of the oldest in Ontario Co., he could not have got scions in that vicinity at that time. I think the tree where the apples grew must have been grafted more than fifty years ago. It is a different apple from the Westfield Seek-no-Further; ripens, I should think, in October, is a more flat apple, and a splendid eating apple. The Westfield is a winter apple. The Judge had a large orchard grafted after the old clay and swingling tow system.—WM. CONE, *Troy, Mich.*, 1861.

RASPBERRIES AND CURRANTS.—Mr. DOWNING, in a communication on our report of the discussion at the Fruit Growers' Society of Western New York, makes the following notes:

Currants.—The White and Red Dutch and White Grape are good sorts. The new varieties are no better in flavor, but some of them larger in size, as the Versaillaise, Cherry, &c.

Raspberries.—The Purple Cane, Purple Cap, Red Cap, English Red, Red Prolific, American Red erroneously, is the most useful of all the hardy raspberries, is not as seedy as the Black Cap, but more juicy, and the best kind for those who will not take the trouble to cover the larger and better tender sorts.

The Orange is too soft for market, and does not retain its color well enough.

HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION IN LONDON, C. W.—We are indebted to some attentive friend in London, Canada West, for an account of the first Exhibition of the New Horticultural Society of that beautiful city, held the 24th ult. The exhibition of flowers was large and fine, and strawberries, raspberries, currants, gooseberries, cherries, and melons, were shown in great abundance. The vegetables were very superior, and far better we have no doubt, than could be exhibited at any similar show in this country. Our Canadian neighbors excel us in the growing of fine vegetables. This we have always found to be the case when attending exhibitions in the British Provinces.

INJURIOUS INSECTS.—The black fly, referred to by me, was the curculio, as I afterwards found out. As you wished me to write to you, if any other depredator should make his appearance, I will say that, this morning, as I was looking among the tomato vines, I saw a worm about three inches long, with as many as six or eight deep creases across his back, and in each crease two eyes. They make bad work with the tomato vines. Last year we killed one hundred and forty four of these depredators. They look so much like the vine it is almost impossible to find them. Can you, or some of the numerous readers of the RURAL, tell me the name, and what will remove them? What will remove caterpillars from cabbage?—A SUBSCRIBER, *Battle Creek, Mich., August* 1.

BLACK CURRANT WINE.—We have received from JOHN F. HAZARD, of West Brighton, N. Y., a youth of 16 years, a bottle of wine from the Black Naples currant, of good quality. It was much better than most of our domestic wines. From other friends we have also received specimens of black currant wine. The fruit is now ripe, and those who intend to test the wine making qualities of the black currant, should do so at once. Most of those who do so will be agreeably disappointed.

TWO DAHLIAS ON ONE STALK.—Two perfect Dahlias, growing on one flower stem, were presented to us by JOHN K. BALLENTINE, of Chili, in this county. A similar freak was shown us by a gentleman of this city, last season.

Domestic Economy.

A BATCH OF CAKES.

SPONGE CAKE.—No. 1.—Two cups sugar; two cups flour; eight eggs.

SPONGE CAKE.—No. 2.—One cup of sugar; three eggs; two cups flour; one spoonful cream tartar; half cup rich cream; half spoonful soda; one spoonful extract lemon. Stir all together five minutes.

CREAM CAKES.—*Inside.*—Half cup of flour; one cup of sugar; two eggs. Boil one pint of new milk; beat the flour, eggs and sugar together, and stir into the milk while boiling, until sufficiently thickened. Boil the milk in a kettle of water. Flavor with lemon or vanilla. *Outside.*—One cup water; one cup butter; two cups sifted flour; five eggs. Boil the water and butter together, stir in the flour while boiling, when cool add the eggs, beating them well together, and one-fourth teaspoon of soda. Drop them upon buttered tins, quite thin, and bake half an hour. Then open them at the side with a knife, and insert as much of the above mixture as you like.

ALMOND CAKE.—One cup of butter; three cups of sugar; four cups of flour; one cup of sweet milk; one spoonful cream tartar; half spoonful soda; one spoonful bitter almond; whites of eight eggs.

SOFT GINGERBREAD.—Two cups of molasses; one and a half cups hot water; half cup butter; two eggs; one spoonful of soda; one spoonful of cloves and cinnamon—ginger if you like; stir in the least flour that will enable it to bake well.—M. M. M., *Moorheadville, Erie Co., Pa.*, 1861.

DRYING THE COMMON RED CURRANT.

We copy the following method from the last number of the *Horticulturist.* Many of our readers will find it just in time to give it a fair trial. The editor of the *Horticulturist* having examined the currants prepared in this way, highly commends it.

The currants should be quite ripe when gathered, with the stems attached, and washed or rinsed effectually and drained off. Then stem them and wash them thoroughly, and to each pound of currants add a quarter of a pound of good Havana sugar; then place them in a preserving kettle over a fire until they come to a *scald heat*, when they are turned out into white earthen dishes, and exposed to the action of the sun until by evaporation they become hardened on the upper side. Then they are turned over, and there remain until they become so on the other side, and so alternate until they become a sort of leathery texture, when they are put away in earthen jars or boxes until wanted for use. Care must be taken to keep them from the dews of night and rains during the process of drying; finally, the utmost cleanliness should be observed from first to last.

When used, enough hot water is required to dissolve them or render them to any consistency suitable for torts, jelly, &c. At the same time, more sugar is required to make them quite palatable, which must of course be governed by taste. Currants in this way have kept well with us for three years, and the presumption is that they will keep for a longer time, if well cared for.

ICE CREAM, BREAKFAST ROLLS, &c.

ICE CREAM.—For one quart of new milk, take the white of four eggs, beat them into a froth; the yolks of four eggs, beat well; mix with them one pound of white sugar, and stir well; pour in the white of eggs, mix well and pour into the milk. Stir all well and put them into the freezer; flavor with lemon or any thing else you choose.

BREAKFAST ROLLS.—Pare and boil four good sized potatoes, mash fine, pour in water sufficient for four or six quarts of flour, three tablespoons of hop yeast, one of salt, one cup of lard or butter, two well beaten eggs. Knead well over night, work in a teaspoonful of saleratus in the morning, cut them out as you would biscuit and roll them long, put them on the tin, let them stand till light and bake in a quick oven.

COOKIES.—Two and one-half cups of sugar; one cup butter; three eggs; one cup cream; one teaspoonful saleratus; one tablespoonful carraway seed. Knead soft, roll thin and bake in a quick oven.—MRS. WM. E. SHELDON, *Allen's Grove, Wis.*, 1861.

SODA BISCUIT.—I have been a reader of the RURAL for a few months, and have found many recipes which I think very good. As I do not wish to keep all the good things and not tell of some that I know, and thinking that a recipe for Soda Biscuit would be of service to you, I give it, for I know it can not be beat, as my mother has used it for over twenty years, and has never known it to fail *once.* Six tumblers of flour; two tumblers of milk, (sweet); three teaspoons of cream tartar; one teaspoon of soda; butter the size of an egg; one-fourth teaspoon of salt. Dissolve the soda in the milk, and rub the tartar in the flour; bake quick. This will make twenty-four good-sized biscuits.—LUCY A. CAMP, *Lansing, Mich.*, 1861.

TO DRESS CUCUMBERS.—Take three good sized cucumbers, pare them, put them in cool water for an hour, take them out and cut them in the usual way; sprinkle salt upon them, and let them be so until an hour before dinner; drain off the salt liquor; put them into a vegetable dish. Take a pint of sour cream, (not too old,) a good tablespoonful of cider vinegar, a piece of butter the size of a hickory-nut; put it on the fire and let it come to a boil: pour it over the cucumbers while hot; set them by in a cool place until dinner. We think this is the only way to eat them. Try it.—*American Farmer.*

CANARY BIRDS.—Having had much trouble in protecting canary birds from the attacks of the insects that infest them and the cages, I learned the following simple method of destroying these pests, which will no doubt be a useful piece of information to many of your readers: By placing every night over the cage a white cloth, the insects gather upon it, and in the morning may be seen by carefully examining the cloth. They may thus be soon removed, and then all that is necessary is to thoroughly clean and varnish the cage.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

CANNING GREEN CORN.—In the RURAL of the 6th ult., a correspondent says that Green Corn may be put up in cans so as to keep as well as Peaches, but does not give directions for so doing. I should be much obliged to any of your correspondents for particular directions for putting it up; also Peas.—A SUBSCRIBER, *Macedon, N. Y.*, 1861.

COLORING BLUE.—Will some of the RURAL readers please send a recipe for coloring blue, that which will color either woolen or cotton, and oblige—L. A. C., *Lansing, Mich.*, 1861.

Ladies' Department.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

AUNT PATTY'S TALK WITH HER NIECES.

BY SYLVIA A. GARRETT.

COME, MARY, get to weaving,
And, BESS, to spinning go,
This fussing and this fitting
Will never, never do.
The fashion now for dressing
I hope will soon be gone,—
Unless it stops I surely think
We'll all to ruin run!
Sleeves flying open at the wrist,
Skirts trailing on the ground—
In my young days, through all the land,
Such wonders were not found.
We dressed in home-spun garments then,
With aprons made of tow,
And, singing, to our spinning wheels
Each merry day we'd go.

At morn and night, with foaming milk
We filled each shining pail;
Storms never kept us from our work—
We laughed at winter's gale!
And, oh, upon the churning day,
Such butter as we made!
At night, within the crystal spring,
The golden rolls were laid,
Which long before the dawn of day
Were carried off to town,
Where once a year, or longer still,
We bought a Sunday gown.
And this most skillfully was made
With neatest sleeves and waist,
For foolish fashions in those days
Were never given place.
Our bonnets well deserved the name
Of coverings for the head,
All smartly trimmed with pink or blue,
Just as our fancy led.

Enough about our dress, dear girls,
On others let me dwell,
For HARRY, PHILIP, LEONARD, MILES,
Are all remembered well.
The plow and hoe, the rake and spade,
They each could use with ease;
Of habits good, in learning "bright,"
They, surely, well could please.
Your uncle, nodding in his chair,
With book dropped to the floor,
Chose your Aunt PATTY, years ago—
I've told you this before.
But times have changed, I read your looks,
You cannot weave or spin;
Well, be good girls, and then, perhaps,
The noblest you may win.

Niagara Falls, 1861.

* * *

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

OUR HOMES.

"Home, home, sweet, sweet home,
Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home."

THE word *home* supposes all that is beautiful, tender, and endearing, and has been immortalized in song by poets whose names will never die. Touchingly beautiful visions of a pleasant home, and a loving, devoted mother, flit like gentle-winged birds before the mighty ones of earth when weary of sickening applause, or the homage of a time-serving people. In all the landscape of life there are no flowers so rich with sweetness as the Amaranth flowers of Love and Affection, which are wreathed about the childhood home; and yet the most desolate of all places on earth to me, the most terrible,—one of which I never think save with a shudder,—is the place *I* call home.

Be not struck dumb at this confession, you who possess a home which is a miniature Paradise, or ought to be, so that you read no farther; for even as I write, gibes and sneers, which subside into mysterious whisperings and sad, sob-like sounds of pleading, fall from the lips of my mother. Now a fiendish, maniac laugh, more horrible than aught else, smites the heart of night,—it smites my heart, too. I hear it daily, yet always with a thrill of horror my poor words can never express.

I can faintly remember when insanity, shrouded in mystery, stole over the threshold of our home, so changing our Angel-mother that her lips drop curses instead of sweet love-words. Her extravagantly beautiful face scowls unending Hate, instead of glowing with the sunshine of Affection. Only this do I remember of what she was when we were happy. Away far away beyond the summits of great Pain, the pit-falls of Ignorance, the cesspool of Slander, the valleys of Despair, and the overwhelming waters of bitterest Sorrow, the glorious light of the mother-smile gleams across all my past grieving like the heaven-born rays of a sinking sun over a sad pictured scene. I wandered through my childhood with no tender caress and no love to shield, save the insane love of an insane mother. Only the trees held me in their arms while the winds rocked and sang my lullaby.

How differently might my life have shaped had I been blessed with a happy home and such a mother as you may kiss to-night, who never knew the sorrows which have embittered all my life. It behooves you, my happier brothers and sisters, to remember prayerfully the holy ties which gather you to that blessed place you call "Home." Do not forget to coin your tenderest thoughts of "father, mother, and home" into sweetest tones, for, like Mrs. GILDERSLEEVE's story, entitled "A Plea for Words," the result will be happiness. You will see a matchless brightening of the "dear old eyes," a trembling of the lip, or, perchance, if you listen "o' night's when they are both together yet *one* alone," you will hear "father" and "mother" rehearsing your pleasant words, and little acts of kindness, (*I* should say indebtedness,) and praising the glorious Giver for so precious a Gift as your humble self to beautify their otherwise desolate home. Remember them as tenderly along all their life-journey, weaving happiness for the earth-home, lest they look with tear-dimmed eyes to that other Home, and long to go before the appointed time.

How many soldier-hearts are beating to-night to the music of those two most musical of earth-words—"Home, mother." How many mothers are praying for JAMIE, or SHEP, or WILLIE, or NED, or BEN, the blessed boy, to come back after the wars, with a "Hip, hip, hurra," for home and happiness, and a blessing for the whitening locks and watching eyes.

In my journeyings I find a vast number of unhappy, wretched homes, which are created principally by the twin-demons, Avarice and Selfishness. A man (and one will find too plentiful a number of them in the walks of humanity,) who would sacrifice the health, comfort, and happiness of his wife and children for the benefit of his "Golden God" cannot expect other than a discontented family and cheerless home. Such a husband and father deserves the contempt of his wife, the disrespect of his children, and, to make more emphatic the truth of the above sentence, I will add that, in nine cases out of ten, he gets his deserts.

GOD grant we may so live that whatever scale of earth-happiness we may be placed in, we may be enabled to sing with the angels:

"Jerusalem, my happy Home."

New York, July, 1861. MARY O'NEALE.

* * *

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

DISPARAGEMENT.

"There is an evil which I have seen under the sun, and it is common among men,"—a disposition to depreciate, undervalue, and discourage everything which does not fully coincide with our own particular views and opinions. There is no more despicable trait in a person's character than this deforming, repulsive habit. It is only one remove from slander, that most hideous of all traits. It does not filch from us the "priceless jewel of our souls," but it is the precursor of the fiend that does. It closes the door to sympathy, checks the gushing sensibilities, chills the warm affections, blights the ardent aspirations, mortifies, and wounds, and destroys many a beautiful spirit, with its sirocco breath.

Many people imbued with this spirit have I met, whose happiness seemed to consist in rendering those around them as uncomfortable as possible. Such people are usually wanting in delicacy, and their remarks never lose the sting by contact with *this* innate principle of good breeding. Go to such an one and confide a plan of earnest resolve,—a plan may be for assistance of others, or the furtherance of some noble object,—and see how much sympathy and encouragement you get. Many a course has been changed, many a good resolution forgotten, many a plan frustrated, and many a lesson of distrust and suspicion learned in this school of life.

This habit of depreciating children and youth by superiors, is very baneful in its tendency. Above all else should we avoid expressing doubts, and fears, and suspicions, to or of them. It never does any good to distrust our neighbor, and continually watch for something not just as it should be, and far worse is it to distrust young people and discourage them.

Often have I listened, in company, to the conversation among neighbors and friends, and could not but observe how watchful *many* were to discourage and oppose, and underrate in others what would have been leniently treated in themselves. The approach of such persons is to be dreaded as the approach of chilling December's breath.

Oh, you who cannot perceive how much harm you are doing, unless it is plainly told you, hold the mirror of truth before your eyes,—read and understand. From childhood I have not only felt the effects of this erroneous practice, but have seen its effects in others. Often has some earnest, enthusiastic plan been utterly overthrown by discouraging remarks. Often has my faith in human nature been shaken, and my confidence withheld, by disparagements of those whom I would have called friends. Often have I grown utterly heartsick and weary with the unappreciative, unsympathizing beings who seem destitute of every delicate perception.

Oh, there are many, very many to whom words of appreciation and encouragement would be more precious than gold. Beneath the assumed iciness of manner, and the chilling mantle of reserve, there is often a heartaching for sympathy, encouragement, appreciation. Did we but study our own hearts more, we would learn to understand and respect the desires and yearnings after something high and noble in our brother. Did we but recall our own experience, we would be wary of interposing anything to discourage, and cease to disparage motives and actions which we did not understand.

Lake Ridge, N. Y., 1861. MILDRED BROWN.

* * *

CULTIVATION OF THE VOICE.

IT has already been observed that the relative strength or weakness of the voice depends partly on the capacity of the lungs, and the general condition of the vocal apparatus, and partly on the number of muscles thrown into action. Experience has also proved that the respiratory organs and the vocal muscles are not only as susceptible of a high degree of development as other portions of our frame, but even to a higher degree. The cultivation of the voice is, however, required on grounds altogether irrespective of the art of singing or public speaking. It is indirectly, perhaps, the most important branch of physical education; for the amount of vital power depends chiefly on the health and vigor of the respiratory process, the regulation of which must be the first step in the cultivation of the voice.

Parents are not generally aware how much might be effected by a proper mode of physical training in those constitutions where the chest is narrow, indicating a predisposition to pulmonary disease. In all such cases, regularly repeated deep inspirations are of paramount value. On account of the elasticity of all the parts concerned, the expansion of the chest is in early childhood easily effected; the capacity of the lungs is increased and the tendency to disease is counteracted.

There should be a sufficient pause between the acts of inspiration and expiration. In order that children should perform these chest exercises slowly, regularly and effectually, they require to be carefully watched, guided, and encouraged; for they soon get tired of them when left to themselves. Even adults will derive considerable benefit if, immediately after rising, they regularly for some time take deep inspirations, in order that the whole lungs may be properly inflated; and then retain the breath as long as possible. The body must be in an erect position, and the shoulders thrown back. It may also be observed that these exercises are best performed in the open air, or, at least, in a well-ventilated room, the windows being open for the time.—*The Philosophy of Voice and Speech.*

* * *

FATHER AND DAUGHTER.—There is no prettier picture in life than that of a daughter reading to her aged father. The old man, while listening to her silvery notes, goes back to other times when another one sat by his side, and whispered words he never will hear again; nor does he wish to do so; for in soft evening light he sees her image reflected in her child, and as one by one gentle emotions steal over him, he veils his face, and the daughter, thinking him asleep, goes noiselessly in search of other employment. Virgin innocence watching over the cares and little wants of old age, is a spectacle fit for angels. It is one of the links between earth and heaven, and takes from the face of the necessarily hard and selfish world many of its harshest features.

* * *

THE love which does not lead to labor will soon die out, and the thankfulness which does not embody itself in sacrifices, is already changing to ingratitude.

Choice Miscellany.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

"NEVER DESPAIR."

BY MRS. A. L. BOSTON.

NEVER DESPAIR when clouds round thee are looming,
Sighing and tears will not chase them afar;
Never despondently wait for their coming,
Clouds are not tempests—so never despair.

Never despair; though Hope's star be o'erclouded,
Though hid from thy vision its cheering rays are,
Bright still it is shining—although awhile shrouded,
Soon again 'twill beam o'er thee—so never despair.

Never despair, though misfortunes o'ertake thee—
With a brave, strong heart, meet them—they're easier to bear,
He who watcheth the sparrows will never forsake thee;
Trust in Him always, and never despair.

Never despair, though foes round thee hover,
With Truth for thy champion, thou never needst fear;
With patience, kind words, and kind acts meet them ever;
If for friends thou wouldst win them, forgive and forbear.

Then cheer thee up, weary one, sad or forsaken,
Each one has his crosses, his sorrow, and care,
Ne'er let thy faith, or thy courage, be shaken,
Hope and trust always, and never despair.

Northville, Mich., 1861.

* * *

A SUMMER-DAY IN HAYING.

BY B. F. TAYLOR.

A LONG time ago, we tried our hand at painting a picture. With what success those who see it now must determine. The fly-leaves of many winters have been turned since then, but Nature is now repeating that sweet old syllable of recorded time, the Summer-Day in Haying. What a blessed thing it is, that Heaven is rich enough to portion off the years with "bran new" summers; that we have no old, dilapidated months at all. Here is the old picture:

Five o'clock and a summer morning! A silver mist hangs along the streams, a few downy clouds are afloat, and the landscape is heavy with dew. The cows turned out from the milking, are tinkling their way along the winding path to the woods; the robins are calling to each other in the orchard, and an enterprising hen in the barn is giving "the world assurance of"—an egg. Somehow, earth, in such a morning, looks as if it were just finished, the coloring not dry, the moldings not "set;" without a grave or a grief in it.

Noting "the way of the wind," and remembering that the sun "come out" as it set last night, it is pronounced a good day for haying. So forth to the meadow they go, the farmer, the neighbors, and the boys, "armed and equipped;" a young bare-footed Commissary bringing up the rear with earthen jug and bright tin pail. Much talk of "wide swaths" and "mowings round," with laugh and jest, beguiles the journey through the pasture to the field of battle. Coats and jackets fly like leaves in winter weather, and on moves the phalanx with the steady step and sweep, amid the tall, damp grass. One bends to the scythe as if it were an oar, and pants on in the rear of his fellows. Another walks erect and boldly up to the grass, the glittering blade the while curving freely and easily about his feet. The fellow in Kentucky Jean expended his strength in boasting on the way, and labors like a ship in a heavy sea, while the quiet chap in tow, that never said a word, is the pioneer of the field.

On they move, towards the tremulous woods in the distance. One pauses, brings the snath to "order arms," and you can hear the *tink-a-tink* of "the rifle," as it sharpens the edge of Time's symbol. Another wipes the beaded drops from his brow, and then the swath-notes blend again, in full orchestra. Onward still; they are hidden in the waving grass—all but a broken line of broad-brimmed hats, that, rising and falling, seem to float slowly over the top of the meadow.

Ten o'clock, and a cloudless sky! The birds and the maples are silent and still; not a flutter nor twitter in woodland or fallow. Far up in the blue, a solitary hawk is slowly swinging in airy circles over the farm. Far down in the breathless lake swoops his shadowy fellow. The long, yellow ribbon of road leading to town, is a quiver with heat. "Brindle" and "Red" stand dozing in the marsh; the sheep are panting in the angles of the fences; the horses are grouped beneath the old oaks; "Pedro," the faithful guardian of the night, has crawled under the wagon for its shadow, now and then snapping in his sleep at the flies that hum around his pendent ears; the cat has crept up into the leafy bottom, and stretched herself at length, upon a limb, to sleep; the canary is dreaming on his drowsy perch; and even the butterflies, weary of flickering in the sunshine, rest, like full blown exotics, on the reeds. The children of the neighboring school, all flushed and glowing, come bounding down the slope, in couples, the old red pail swung up between; and the clatter of the windlass betokens "the old oaken bucket" already dripping up into the sun, with its brimming wealth of water.

Twelve o'clock and a breathless noon. The corn fairly "curls" in the steady blaze. The sun has driven the shadows around under the west and north walls; it has reached the noon mark on the threshold and pours the broad beams into the hall; the Morning Glories have "struck" their colors, and a little vine trailed up the wall by a string of a shroud, shows decided symptoms of "letting go." The horn winds for dinner, but its welcome note surprises the mowers in the midst of the meadow, and they'll cut their way out, like good soldiers, despite the signal.

Back we are again to the field; aye, and back too, upon the threshold of childhood. A chance breath wafts to us the sweet, old-fashioned fragrance of the new-mown hay, and we are younger in memory than we'll ever be again. The angry hum of the bees just thrown out of house and home; and the whistling quail, as she whirled timidly away before the steady sweep of the whetted scythes; and the shout of the children, as the next stroke laid open her summer hopes to the day; and the bell-tones of the bob-o'-links swinging upon the willows in the "Hollow." Can't you hear—don't you remember them all?

And have you forgotten the green knoll under the wide-spreading beech—or was it a maple?—and how hungry you were, at the morning lunch, just from sympathy, though you hadn't "earned your salt" for a week? And the brown jug filled with pure cold water, and—in those old times, you know—the little black bottle, with something stronger, just "to qualify" it, as they said, that nestled lovingly together, amid the cool and dewy grass in the fence-corner? We are sure you remember how the magnificent loads went trembling into the barn, you upon the top, and how they heaped the new hay into the empty "mow," till it was half as high as the ladder—up to the "big beam"—up to the swallow-hole; and how you crept up with a young troop, and hid away in a dark corner, festooned with cobwebs, and "played" you were a "painter" or a "catamountain," and growled terrifically, to the unspeakable dread of your little brother, or cousin, or somebody. Or, how, wearied of the frolic, you lay upon the hay, and counted the dusty sunbeams, as they streamed through the crevices in the loose siding, and wondered how they got out again, and how many it took to make a day, and passed your fingers through them, to and fro, and marveled that you felt nothing.

Many a time, you know, you crept through that same meadow with Mary Gray—don't you remember Mary?—she lived in the house just over the hill—strawberrying. You picked in *her* basket—don't deny it—and you always felt happier than when you filled your own, though you never knew why. You had a queer feeling sometimes about the heart, though you never knew what. You have found it all out since, no doubt. And Mary—what has become of her? Why, "There is a Reaper, whose name is Death," that goes forth to the harvest in sweetest Spring and latest Autumn and deepest Winter as well, and Mary and Ellen and Jane were long ago bound up in the same sure bundle of life!"

Seven o'clock and a clear night! The shadows and the mists are rising in the valleys—the frogs have set up their chorus in the swamp—the fire-flies are showing a light off the marsh—the whip-poor-wills begin their melancholy song—a star blazes beautifully over the top of the woods, and the fair beings that people our childhood, come about us in the twilight—the fair beings,

"Who set as sets the morning star, that goes
Not down behind the darkened west, nor hides
Obscured amid the tempest of the sky,
But melts away into the light of heaven."

* * *

OUR BANNER—ELOQUENT EXTRACTS.

JOSEPH HOLT, in a late letter to the citizens of Kentucky, portions of which have been published in the RURAL, speaks thus of the Star Spangled Banner:

"Let us twine each thread of the glorious tissue of our country's flag about our heart strings, and looking upon our homes, and catching the spirit that breathes upon us from the battle-fields of our fathers, let us resolve that come weal or come wo, we will in life and in death, now and forever, stand by the stars and stripes. They have floated over our cradles; let it be our prayer and our struggle that they shall float over our graves. They have been unfurled from the snows of Canada to the plains of New Orleans, and to the halls of the Montezumas, and amid the solitudes of every sea; and everywhere, as the luminous symbol of resistless and beneficent power, they have led the brave and the free to victory and glory. It has been my fortune to look upon this flag in foreign lands and amid the gloom of an oriental despotism, and right well do I know, by contrast, how bright are its stars, and how sublime are its inspirations. If this banner, the emblem for us of all that is grand in human history, and of all that it transporting to human hope, is to be sacrificed on the altars of a Satanic ambition, and thus disappear forever amid the night and tempest of revolution, then will I feel—and who shall estimate the desolation of that feeling—that the sun has indeed been stricken from the sky of our lives, and that henceforth we shall be but wanderers and outcasts, with naught but the bread of sorrow and penury for our lips, and with hands ever outstretched in feebleness and supplication, on which, at any hour, a military tyrant may rivet the fetters of a despairing bondage. May God, in his infinite mercy, save you and me, and the land we so much love, from the doom of such a degradation."

HENRY WARD BEECHER in a recent sermon remarks:—"That Flag means Lexington—it means Bunker Hill—it means the whole glorious revolutionary war. It means all the Declaration of Independence means—it means all that the Constitution means. Not a symbol of authority of the ruler was allowed to go in it. It was ordained for the people by the people; that it meant and that it means, and by the blessing of God that it shall mean to the end of time. For God Almighty be thanked, that when base, degenerate men desired to set up oppressions at war with all the interests of American liberty, they could not do it under our flag. They must have another flag for such work. I thank them that they took another flag to do the devil's work. [Applause, suppressed.] If ever the sentiment of the text has been fulfilled, it has been in our glorious banner. 'Thou hast given a banner to them that fear thee, *that it may be displayed;*' and displayed it shall be from the Atlantic wave clear across, with eagle flight, to the Pacific; that banner shall wave meaning all that it ever meant. From the North, where snow and ice stand solitary, clear to the Gulf and tropics, that banner has waved and shall wave forever."

* * *

WORK AND PLAY.

RECREATION can be fully enjoyed only by a man who has some honest occupation. The end of the work is to enjoy leisure; but to enjoy leisure, you must have gone through work. Play-time must come after school-time, otherwise it loses its savor. Play, after all, is a relative thing; it is not a thing which has an absolute existence. There is no such thing as play except to the worker. It comes out by contrast. Put white upon white, and you can hardly see it; put white upon black, and how bright it is! Light your lamp in the sunshine, and it is nothing; you must have dark around, to make its presence felt.

And besides this, the greater part of the enjoyment of recreation consists in the feeling that we have earned it by previous hard work. One goes out for the afternoon walk with a light heart, when one has done a good task since breakfast. It is one thing for a dawdling idler to set off to the continent or to the Highland, just because he was sick of everything around him; and quite another when a hard-wrought man, who is of some use in life, sets off as gay as a lark, with the pleasant feeling that he has brought some work to an end, on that self-same tour.

And then a busy man finds a relish in simple recreations; while a man who has nothing to do, finds all things wearisome, and thinks that life is "used up;" it takes something quite out of the way to tickle that indurated palate; you might as well prick the hide of a hippopotamus with a needle, as to excite the interest of that *blasé* being by any amusement which is not spiced with the cayenne of vice. And that certainly has a powerful effect. It was a glass of water the wicked old French woman was drinking, when she said:—"Oh! that this were a sin to give it a relish!"—*Recreations of a Country Parson.*

* * *

THE mind is weak where it has once given way; it is long before a principle restored can become as firm as one that has never been moved.

Sabbath Musings.

"COME UNTO ME."—Matt. 11: 28.

MOURNER! to thee the Savior speaks;
Turn from the stranger's voice and flee;
Thy weary, wandering soul He seeks,
He whispers, "Come to me."

The stranger paints Him harsh, austere,
Doubts whether hope remains for thee;
Points to a pathway dark and drear,
Augments thy misery.

But Christ proclaims the mourner blest,
Bestows salvation full and free;
Promises peace, refreshment, rest,
He whispers, "Come to me."

Why are thine eyes with weeping dim?
Why presses guilt so heavily?
Thy sins have all been borne by *Him*,
Yea *thine*, on Calvary.

Fix on Him cross thy tearful sight,
There thy propitiation see;
"Easy his yoke—his burden light,"
He whispers, "Come to me."

O'er thee with tenderest love He yearns;
Thy guilt, thy grief, thy misery,
These are th' inducements He discerns
For loving thee.

Mourner, canst thou such love resist?
Those arms outstretched to welcome thee?
Be every doubt and fear dismissed;
He whispers, "Come to me."

* * *

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

BE HOPEFUL.

WE are living in a world of sunshine and shadow. Trials of greater or lesser magnitude are experienced in the life of every person, and in the case of many, it is difficult to tell of which their lives have most,—joy or grief. Still, some appear always glad, while others are always grief-smitten. But there is a kind angel that comes with her priceless blessings to gladden earth, by bestowing her tranquilizing benediction upon the troubled and weary hearts of the children of men. Nor are her ministrations received alone by those high in authority or rich in earthly treasure. Neither wealth nor power can secure her blessing. The humblest and most obscure are not unacquainted with the visitations of the sweet messenger-spirit that comes from the nightless realm of cloudless skies to whisper her comforting and inspiring words, to refresh and strengthen the weary, to encourage the desponding, and to teach tearful eyes to look forward to a brighter future, or upward to a land where grief may never enter. Let the disheartened or sorrowing one listen to the whisperings of the white-winged angel, Hope. When thy heart is sad from any cause, and the clouds hover gloomily over thy way, wait patiently for the day-dawn of a time when thy sky shall not be gloom-enshrouded and thy heart heavy. If death severs a dear friend from thee, thank GOD that others still remain. If one thou hast trusted proves false, and bright prospects are buried in the sepulchre whence they can never come forth, trust that yet upon life's way there shall be given to thee a heart of true nobility to increase thy happiness. Above all, listen ever to the soul-cheering utterances of Hope, as she pointeth thy saddened spirit away to the land of the blessed,—the bright world of eternal felicity and untarnished glory. And rejoice ever in the Eternal Friend above, whose love can know no change and exceeds any earthly affection,—who will protect thee as an earthly friend cannot, and, by-and-by, take thee to repose forever in His arms of love. A. T. E. CLARKE.

Wadhams' Mills, N. Y., 1861.

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[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

GOD'S LOVE AND CARE.

"LIKE as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him."—*Bible.*

BLESSED thought—and how expressive of the love and care of our Heavenly Father for the children of His kingdom on earth. Truly heart-cheering it is for His servants to remember, when borne down by the weight of affliction—when ready to sink in the waters of adversity—when disheartened and discouraged from the fiery ordeals through which they are called to pass—whatever their avocation and wherever their home,—the GOD of Heaven is not unmindful of them. We are glad to feel that we have the sympathies of our fellow creatures—but should not the remembrance that the Infinite, in all the ills that befall us from the errors of our sin-depraved natures, and from the persecutions of a fallen world, lends a pitying ear to our cries of sorrow, and is ever ready to bind up the broken, penitent heart? Let us trust Him,—coming to Him in the way of His appointments,—and we shall learn by happy experience that He not only pities but will shield us from the power of our adversaries, bring us safely through life's pilgrimage, and give us an inheritance where all will be well. B.

Bath, N. Y., 1861.

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GRADUAL REPENTANCE.—Gradual repentance is like a man who wants to be taken out of a burning building, but who says to those about him, "Now don't take me out too suddenly; take me down first to a room where it is not so hot, and then to another room, where there is still less heat, and so take me out gradually." Why, the man would be a cinder before you could get him out. A man who wants to reform should do so perpendicularly.

* * *

THE mirth of heaven is thankfulness and praise. The mirth of heaven upon earth—that is, of the converted mind—is the same, even praise to our God. If, then, cheerfulness and thankfulness of mind, which will endure even amid all the gloominess of the death-bed, and the dark valley, and the awful insignia of judgment—if these be desirable gifts of mind, these form parts of the desirableness of conversion.

* * *

ALAS! the heart is like the soil. Evil thoughts are native to it. Pure and holy thoughts are exotics. Hence we cannot expect a spontaneous growth of grace; but must cultivate its germs, when planted by the Spirit, with patient assiduity. We must use diligently all the means of grace.

* * *

PEOPLE say, "How fortunate it is that things have turned out just as they have—that I was prepared for this!"—as if God did not arrange the whole. One might as well say, "How fortunate it is that I have a neck beneath my head, and shoulders under my neck!"

* * *

TRUE souls are made brighter by sorrow. The ocean is most phosphorescent after a storm.

* * *

IT is easy to love our fellow-men. Do good to them, and you will be sure to love them.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.

> " Who said the good name of our country was gone—
> That her flag would be honored no more?
> Over valley and plain, over mountain and main,
> Rolls an answer like Thunder's deep roar
> A million brave spirits all shout with one voice,
> ' We will die for the rights we demand!
> Let traitors beware—by their dark plots we swear
> That no shadow shall rest on our land!' "

ROCHESTER, N. Y., AUGUST 10, 1861.

THE WAR'S PROGRESS.

FACTS, SCENES, INCIDENTS, ETC.

Condition of the South.

A GENTLEMAN who left Savannah, Georgia, on Monday, the 22d instant, contributes to the Philadelphia *Press* some interesting statements of the condition of affairs at the South.

THE NEWS OF THE BATTLE AT BULL RUN.—On the 22d inst. only the first reports of the battle of Bull Run had been received at Savannah, and there was no great disposition to rejoice over the result. The general feeling was that it was virtually a drawn battle, and as Georgia had lost one of her generals, in the person of General Francis Bartow, of Savannah; Florida another, in the person of General Johnston, (not the General Johnston who commanded at Harper's Ferry); and as General Bee, Colonel Wade Hampton, of South Carolina, and Colonel Jackson, besides a large number of the rank and file of the Southern army, were killed and many wounded, there was but little exultation over their victory. When he arrived at Atlanta, news of the rapid retreat of our army had been received, and caused much rejoicing, and in Tennessee the same gleeful spirit was evinced. In Kentucky the Union men bore up bravely against the news of our disaster, and they proudly boasted that the United States Government was strong enough to stand a dozen such defeats without being destroyed or sensibly weakened.

The news of Gen. McClellan's victories in Western Virginia had caused much depression among the insurgents of Georgia; and they particularly regretted the death of General Garnett and the destruction of his army, as a considerable body of the crack troops of that State, who had been considered by their friends unconquerable, had been under his command.

STRENGTH OF THE REBEL FORCES.—He considers that the great error of the North has been in underrating the strength of the Southern forces in Virginia. He has seen reliable statements, showing that previous to the late battle they had 165,000 men under arms in that State, and since then further reinforcements have been sent forward. They consider Virginia the battle ground, and Howell Cobb expressed the general conviction when he declared, recently, in Atlanta, that if the insurgents could not retain possession of Virginia, their whole cause was lost. There are great efforts now being made to recruit more soldiers, but they meet with comparatively little success. Nearly all the good available fighting material of the South has already been sent forward, and those whom they are now trying to force into the service have but little sympathy with their cause, and would prefer either not to fight at all, or to sustain the Union. There is also great difficulty in supplying their new troops with arms, munitions, and equipments.

COTTON.—There will be a great falling off in the cotton crop of the South, this year—at least one-fourth. The planters are undecided as to the best plan of disposing of it. Some advise them to prepare it as usual, and deposit large quantities of it at New Orleans. Others are opposed to this scheme, because, as they allege, the accumulation of such a stock of that precious article would prove an irresistible temptation to Northern cupidity, and that the Union army would probably capture it. They therefore say that for the present it should not be ginned, but simply deposited in its raw state, on the plantations. The effort to secure cotton subscriptions to the Confederate loan, meets with moderate success. The large planters of Georgia appear to be willing to subscribe freely, as they are animated by such an intense hatred of the North, that they are ready to sacrifice everything they possess to promote the success of the insurgent army. They say they would much rather be subjects of Great Britain than citizens of the United States. But the small planters have little or no faith in the Confederate bonds, and many of them refuse to subscribe a single bale to the proposed loan.

A LATENT UNION FEELING.—It is said that in the northern part of the State there is still a strong Union sentiment. At Atlanta, a soldier, who had been visiting that section on a furlough, declared when he heard a man hurrah for Jeff. Davis, that he had lately seen a good many Georgians who were ready to hurrah for Lincoln. In traveling upon the cars the passengers are all very reserved and silent. Each man appears distrustful of his companion, and fearful that he may in some way expose or betray him.

THE SLAVES.—The negroes generally are sullen and reserved. Great pains have been taken to disarm them, and there is but little fear expressed of an insurrection, although among some persons such apprehensions exist. Our informant illustrated the cautious concealment of their real feelings by a remark of a slave of whom he asked, "What do you negroes think of these military preparations?" alluding to the formation of companies and the march of troops which he had observed. The answer was, "Can't say, massa, if we do know anything, or the white people will cut off our heads."

THE GOVERNMENT.—Previous to the attack on Fort Sumter the conviction was almost universal in Georgia that the Union would be reconstructed. The Montgomery government was regarded as simply a temporary affair, which was resorted to for the purpose of obtaining from the North such concessions as the ultra southern politicians demanded, and it was this view of it, more than anything else, which led many men to favor the secession movement as only an adroit political manœuvre, that would result, not in a final separation of the Union, but merely in new guarantees to the South. Since the war has fairly commenced, however, many who for a long period defended the Union have become the most bitter and proscriptive secessionists, the change being caused, in some instances, by a desire to secure their personal safety, and in others, perhaps, by a sincere change of views.

LIEUT.-GENERAL WINFIELD SCOTT.

IN the history of our country the "man of the hour" has generally been found among those whose pursuits were of that character denominated "peaceful." Commerce, manufactures, science, or art, have each attracted the popular gaze, but now, because of traitors, military spirit rules, and military genius reigns. First among those who sway the destinies of the Republic is WINFIELD SCOTT, and we give his portrait to RURAL readers with gratification.

Near Petersburg, Virginia, on the 13th of June, 1786, WINFIELD SCOTT was born. He passed through the Richmond High School, and afterwards studied law at William and Mary College. His military career began in 1807, on the reception of news concerning the Chesapeake, when he volunteered as a member of the Petersburg cavalry. In May, 1808, he was commissioned Captain of light artillery, and has been in the army ever since. When the war of 1812 commenced, he had advanced to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. In 1814 he was promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General, and in 1836 to that of Major-General. Subsequent to the war with Mexico the rank of Lieutenant-General was constituted and the degree conferred upon him, thus making him the head of the American Army. It is not our purpose to detail the benefits this illustrious soldier has conferred upon our country, nor is it necessary, for every American lad has read of Lundy's Lane, Vera Cruz, Contreras, Churubusco, Chapultepec, and Mexico. It may not be amiss, however, to look backward a little more than ten years and observe the views then held by one who to-day is among his most bitter revilers, the New Orleans *Delta*. The *Delta* remarked:—"A great deal has been said and written in reference to the ability of General SCOTT, as a military man, but those who have not seen him in command and under fire, can not form any just conception of his abilities. His cool consideration of every thing around him—his quick perception—his firm resolves and immediate execution—equal if they do not surpass those of any of the great Generals whose deeds have been made so conspicuous in History."

We have to deal with the duties of the present, and one of those duties is to aid in placing our Commander-in-Chief in his proper position before the American people. When the country became involved in a civil war, General SCOTT, having remained loyal to the Constitution, was looked to by the masses as the man to crush out treason. The traitors in the Cabinet of JAMES BUCHANAN had stolen the arms and munitions of war belonging to the Nation, had stationed the regular troops at distant points, had appointed such as acquiesced in their nefarious scheme to the command of the Southern forts and arsenals; and when the blow fell, the entire defensive material, except brave hearts and ready hands, came into their possession. True it is that tens of thousands rallied from the hills, valleys, and prairies, of the North, to defend our National honor. Men were plenty, but without discipline, without weapons, without supplies,—what could be done? Never despairing for a moment, Gen. SCOTT proceeded to bring order out of chaos. Time passed, and just as the prospect began to brighten, a new general entered the field, threatening to supersede him. *Impatience* had seized upon many who were "vested with a little brief authority,"—and these talked immensely of "old fogyism" and "slow coaches," while they daily destroyed—*on paper, of course,*—more rebels than have figured in history from the days of JUDAS down to the advent of his eminent compeer, JEFF. DAVIS. Our people, educated to a fast life, and impatient of control, began to grow uneasy under restraint; the spirit which actuated was evinced on every side; "On to Richmond" became the slogan, and for the first time the Old Soldier was driven from "the even tenor of his way."

In a recent issue of the RURAL we published the remarks of a leading English journal upon the military career of Gen. SCOTT. The statement was there made,—a statement which history verifies,—that "although he had been in arms for more than half a century, yet during all that time, as youth, man, and veteran, when in command of any description of force, *he has never retreated one foot.* Not that he is any braver than officers who have made nearly as many retreats as advances, but that *he cannot be induced to move until he is certain of his ability to maintain his position.*" It was furthermore asserted that not a move would he make in the present difficulties "until he felt well assured he could maintain, in men, munitions of war, and lines of communication, any advantages temporarily secured." Acknowledging the force of these facts, when the North heard of the advance upon Richmond, the entire people expected a series of brilliant victories which would quickly crush the rebellion and restore peace and prosperity to the whole country. The idea of defeat was never entertained for a moment, and when the intelligence of the reverse flashed along the wires, it startled as though a thunderbolt had fallen in our midst from a cloudless sky. Lovers of the Union and the Old Flag were stunned by the shock, and as we recovered, cavilers and fault-finders raised the cry, "SCOTT has periled the country by moving too fast," and none iterated it more frequently than those who had previously spent their breath in vociferating "On to Richmond." The subject is a proper one for investigation, and we purpose looking a little at the record, just to satisfy ourselves as to whether our Commander-in-Chief is still an "Old Hero."

In the House of Representatives, on the 24th ult., an exciting debate arose as to the causes which led to the defeat of the Federal army. Mr. RICHARDSON, of Ill., concluded a speech thus:—"I repeat, that Gen. SCOTT has been forced to fight this battle. I will tell the gentlemen what occurred yesterday morning. My colleagues and myself were present with the President, Secretary of War, and Gen. SCOTT. In the course of our conversation, Gen. SCOTT remarked: 'I am the biggest coward in the world.' I arose from my seat. 'Stay,' said Gen. SCOTT, 'I will prove it. I fought the battle against my judgment, and I think the President ought to remove me to-day for doing it. As God is my judge,' he added, after an interval of silence, 'I did all in my power to make the army efficient, and I deserve removal because I did not stand up when I could and did not.'"

Mr. RAYMOND, of the N. Y. *Times*, furnishes his testimony. He says:—"On the Tuesday preceding the battle, Gen. SCOTT, at his own table, in presence of his aide and a single guest, discussed the whole subject of this war in all its parts, and with the utmost clearness and accuracy. He had a distinct and well-defined opinion on every point connected with it, and stated what his plan would be for bringing it to a close, *if the management of it had been left in his hands.* * * * If the matter had been left to him, he said, he would have commenced by a perfect blockade of every Southern port on the Atlantic and the Gulf. Then he would have collected a large force at the Capital for defensive purposes, and another on the Mississippi for offensive operations. The summer months should have been devoted to tactical instruction, and with the first frosts of autumn, he would have taken a column of 80,000 well disciplined troops down the Mississippi, and taken every important point on that river, New Orleans included. *It could have been done, he said, with greater ease, with less loss of life, and with far more important results than would attend the marching of an army to Richmond.* 'This,' said he, 'was my plan. But I am only a subordinate. It is my business to give advice when it is asked, and to obey orders—when they are given. *I shall do it.* There never was a more just and upright man than the President—never one who desired more sincerely to promote the best interests of the country. But there are men among his advisers who consult their own resentments far more than the dictates of wisdom and experience—and *these men will probably decide the plan of the campaign.* I shall do, or attempt, whatever I am ordered to do. *But they must not hold me responsible.* If I am ordered to go to Richmond, I shall endeavor to do it. But I know perfectly well that they have no conception of the difficulties we shall encounter. I know the country—how admirably adapted it is to defense, and how resolutely and obstinately it will be defended. I would like nothing better than to take Richmond,—now that it has been disgraced by becoming the capital of the rebel Confederacy, I feel a resentment toward it, and should like nothing better than to scatter its Congress to the winds. But I have lived long enough to know that human resentment is a very bad foundation for a public policy; and these gentlemen will live long enough to learn it also. I shall do what I am ordered. I shall fight when and where I am commanded. *But if I am compelled to fight before I am ready, they shall not hold me responsible.* These gentlemen must take the responsibility of their acts, as I am willing to take that of mine. But they must not throw *their* responsibility on my shoulders.'"

THURLOW WEED, of the Albany *Journal*, substantially corroborates the statements relative to the overruling of Gen. SCOTT. He remarks that the General had prepared three plans for the campaign, but that they were not in accordance with the popular idea. Demands for a move were daily growing more and more clamorous in Washington. Exciting appeals to popular feeling were followed by denunciations of Gen. SCOTT. Meanwhile Congress assembled. Senators and Representatives, with more zeal than knowledge, caught up and reiterated the cry, "ON TO RICHMOND." The *impotent* Congressmen were leading and influential. They waited upon the President to complain of the inactivity of the army, and upon Gen. SCOTT, urging him "ON TO RICHMOND." Army bills, prepared with deliberation by Senator WILSON (in accordance with the views of the Government), were emasculated by the Home Military Committee. The President and his Cabinet had reason to apprehend, if not the censures of Congress, the failure of measures essential to the prosecution of the war, unless the order of "ON TO RICHMOND" was obeyed. A movement upon Manassas was universally and blindly demanded.

The tyranny of the Press, the denunciations of a Cabinet Minister, and the impetuosity of a dozen Members of Congress, exciting the masses, "moved" Gen. SCOTT "from his proprieties." For once in his life his purposes were thwarted—for once his mind "became the mind of other men." The result shows that it was a fatal weakness. * * * To have resisted these demands would have overthrown the Administration, and might have destroyed the Government. "Madness ruled the hour," and a battle at Manassas, right or wrong, became not a military, but a political necessity.

United States Sanitary Commission.

A CIRCULAR has been forwarded to the press throughout the Northern States, by the Sanitary Committee, with a request that it be published. As it contains matters of vital importance to our volunteers, we give it herewith, and express the hope that the facts presented may be generally understood, and that the suggestions made by the Commissioners will be heeded:

AID TO VOLUNTEERS.

All volunteers in the service of the United States can claim as their right, under the Army Regulations, suitable clothing and equipment. The Quarter Master's Department is now able to supply nearly all demands upon it, and will soon be prepared to do so still more fully and certainly. Before the end of the month, the Department will have engaged, for instance, three million yards of flannel, eight hundred thousand pairs of bootees, eight hundred thousand pairs of woolen stockings, two hundred thousand felt hats, two hundred thousand haversacks, with blankets, &c., in proportion—these quantities being in addition to what had been previously secured. These supplies are of much superior quality to those furnished by the State Governments, or those generally furnished by Patriotic Societies and individuals for the volunteers. A large proportion of the articles furnished soldiers gratuitously or which they purchase for their own use, are soon found to be encumbrances, and are thrown away or left behind, where they will be useless at the first important march of a campaign.

The same is true of regimental hospital supplies. It is not intended that men seriously ill or wounded, shall remain with their regiments, but that they shall be taken to the "General Hospitals." No provision is therefore made for the supply or conveyance of Regimental Hospitals. On an important advance of troops, the surgeon's stores, including his tents and personal effects and those of his assistants and stewards, must generally be restricted to half a wagon load, and when an action is anticipated, a knapsackful is often all that is allowed to be carried. The wounded and sick are expected to be removed (as soon as their most immediate and urgent necessities have been attended to, as far as practicable in the open-field,) by means of ambulances, to general troop hospitals, in the rear. Regimental hospital supplies are thus of little use.

It must be admitted that the provisions for general hospitals, however, is not all that the country demands it should be for its dear volunteers. After great battles, or in case epidemics should rage in the army, large quantities of bed clothing would be much wanted; for, under the present regulations, only straw beds and blankets, without sheets or pillow cases, can be at once provided, and the wounded lie in their field clothing. Precisely when and where these articles will be wanted cannot be known beforehand. The Government Sanitary Commission has, by advice of the Surgeon-General, arranged to receive and hold in readiness all such suitable articles as may be furnished by voluntary contributions, and will supply them where they will be most needed, guarding against the waste which must attend unsystematized liberality.

It is best that all societies and individuals disposed to aid the army, for the present concentrate their labor on the class of articles indicated. The Sanitary Commission will establish depots and forwarding agencies at different points, a list of which will soon be published. For the present there is immediate need of all that can be sent, at Washington. Donations of materials and of money may be addressed to Fred. Law Olmstead, Resident Secretary, office of the Sanitary Commission, Treasury Building, Washington.

New York to the Rescue.

As a call for 25,000 additional troops has been made upon our State, Gov. MORGAN issues the following Proclamation:

The President of the United States having requested me to furnish additional troops for the prompt suppression of resistance to the Constitution and the Laws, I do hereby call for a volunteer force of 25,000 men to serve for three years, or during the war. Such force will be raised pursuant to a general order, which will be issued immediately, and which will prescribe the mode of organization. To the end that every portion of the State may have an opportunity to contribute thereto, the rendezvous will be at New York, Albany, and Elmira; the headquarters at Albany.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the privy seal of the State, at the City of Albany, this twenty-fifth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one.

EDWIN D. MORGAN.

By order of the Governor.
LOCKWOOD L. DOTY, Private Secretary.

The Surrender of Rich Mountain.

EACH of the following brief epistles relates its own story:

HEADQUARTERS AT MR. KETTLE'S HOUSE,
NEAR TYGERT'S VALLEY RIVER,
SIX MILES FROM BEVERLY, July 12, 1861.

To the Commanding Officer of the Northern Forces, Beverly, Virginia

SIR:—I write to state to you that I have, in consequence of the retreat of General Garnet, and the jaded and reduced condition of my command, most of them having been without food for two days, concluded, with the concurrence of a majority of my captains and field officers, to surrender my command to you to-morrow, as prisoners of war. I have only to add, I trust they will only receive at your hands such treatment as has been invariably shown to the Northern prisoners by the South.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,
JOHN PEGRAM,
Lieut. Col. P. A. C. S., Commanding.

Gen. MCCLELLAN sent the following reply by his aid-de-camp, Lieut. Williams, U. S. Army:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE OHIO,
BEVERLY, VA., July 13, 1861,

John Pegram, Esq., styling himself Lieut. Col. P. A. C. S.

SIR:—Your communication, dated yesterday, proposing to surrender as prisoners of war the force under your command, has been delivered to me. As commander of this department, I will receive you and them with the kindness due to prisoners of war; but it is not in my power to relieve you or them from any liabilities incurred by taking arms against the United States.

I am, very respectfully, your ob't serv't,
GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN,
Major Gen. U. S. A., Commanding Dep't.

Barbarity of the Rebels.

FOR several days subsequent to the battle at Manassas, the telegraph conveyed statements of atrocities committed upon Federal troops who were wounded and left upon the field. We regarded them as rumors which investigation would prove false, but it would seem that there is only too much of truth in the statements. The correspondent of the N. Y. *Tribune* writes thus under date of Washington, July 25th.

I communicate herewith some facts as to the butchery of the wounded in the battle at Manassas on Sunday last. They should be held up to the country and the world, till the character of the foe we have to fight is fully realized. Similar statements may be obtained from hundreds of reliable men who were in the battle.

Dr. N. S. Barnes, of Rochester, N. Y., Surgeon of the 27th New York Volunteers, followed his regiment to the field, and operated upon the wounded there, as the facilities for transportation to the rear were imperfect. At one point they lost a few men, and operations were performed upon them where they lay. Just after their wounds were dressed, a charge of cavalry swept the field. Seeing the cavalry advancing, the surgeons and their assistants picked up as many of the wounded as possible and bore them to the rear. They were compelled, however, to leave a marine and an artilleryman on whom they had performed amputation.

After the charge had passed, they returned again, and found the two wounded men slain by bayonet wounds inflicted since they were left by the surgeons. Soon after, a messenger came saying that Col. Slocum had fallen, and required immediate attendance. Doctor Barnes at once repaired to another part of the field with his assistants, where the batteries of the enemy had mowed down whole ranks of men. The contending forces had retired and were not in sight, but at least one hundred of our dead and wounded were left behind. The party of six succeeded in finding Col. Slocum, laid him on a blanket, and were conveying him away, when the enemy charged upon the wounded and commenced a wholesale slaughter. Not a man was standing on the field to oppose them. Dr. Barnes waved his sash, and begged them to spare the wounded, to which they answered by a volley of balls upon his party who were bearing away their wounded Colonel.

They retreated rapidly, but were followed and fired upon for nearly half a mile, and only succeeded in making their escape by getting into a ravine. They carried Col. Slocum to the stone church used as a hospital, and there dressed his wound. The surgeons then returned to the field, and found every man they had left there wounded bayoneted or shot. They examined minutely, in hopes to find some survivors of the general butchery, but not one remained alive. Dr. Barnes states that at least sixty or seventy men were butchered in that part of the field. When he left it the wounded were sitting, or sometimes creeping away on their hands and knees, or searching for drink to assuage their terrible thirst. When he returned, an hour later, they lay like logs, all dead. Dr. Cheney, the hospital steward, makes the same statement, and also says that he is credibly informed that after the general retreat the hospital was burned and the wounded slain.

Capt. George Formsley, of Company E, same regiment, says he saw the hospital beyond Bull Run blown up on Monday evening after the retreat. Thinks that had the reserves been brought up, the field could have been held all night and the wounded saved. This last opinion is shared by all who left the field late. The retreat was a wicked and shameful abandonment of our dead and wounded, wholly without excuse. No man can give any good reason why the fresh regiments of reserves were not brought up to the front to cover the retreat, or assist in making a stand. The ground which we held Saturday was perfectly tenable on Monday, and no justification can be made for retiring farther. The testimony of hundreds of reliable individuals shows, beyond all doubt, that the murder of the wounded, if not universal, proved a very prominent feature in the battle. Massachusetts men and Zouaves seem to have been special objects of vengeance, but none were exempt from these atrocities. Let well-authenticated facts be collected and published now, while the memory is fresh, that the world may see that we have another Sepoy rebellion to crush.

The Philadelphia *Inquirer* of the 26th says:—A lieutenant of an Ohio regiment, now in this city, and who was at the battle of Bull Run, states that he saw several of our wounded bayoneted and having their throats cut by the members of the Alabama and Georgia regiments. The poor fellows begged for their lives, but their pleadings were disregarded, and with an oath the death-wound was inflicted. War, like wine, would seem to develop character, and this war brings out in strong relief the barbarism, brutality, and loose morality of the slaveholding population. Some of the papers affect to doubt whether the rebels fired upon the hospital building. There can be no question of the fact. An Ohio surgeon informs us that it was assiduously shelled while the wounded of both armies were being cared for within it.

One of the enemy's cavalry rode up to a wagon containing a wounded German soldier of Capt. Langworthy's company, 2d Wisconsin regiment, and dragging him out by the hair of the head, pierced him through the body with his sword, yelling, "I'll teach you —— black Abolitionists to come down here to fight us." The trooper then rushed upon the driver of the wagon, and, with a back cut of his sabre, nearly severed the man's head from his body, and he fell lifeless among his horses.

Easy Treatment of Rebels—How it Works.

THE sheer folly exhibited by the Federal Government in many of its dealings with the rebels, is fully appreciated just at the present time. At Bull Run the rebels captured, and still hold, probably 800 of our men, and the statesmen at Washington are seriously inquiring "How are they to be released?" In no way at present that by exchange. But, although we have captured great numbers of the rebels since the commencement of hostilities, we have let them all go again, with the exception of a few officers and spies. We hardly hold a man of the rank and file. We administer the oath of allegiance, and turn them loose to swell again the ranks of the enemy. It is no offence whatever to be found in arms against the United States. Gen. McClellan's command captured nearly 1,000 men, who were permitted to go on taking the everlasting oath. Had they been detained, they would have been the means of releasing every soldier captured in the late fight. They would have been so much capital on hand, to be offset against a reverse of our own. Now, before we can get back our lost men, we must make a new haul.

We cannot understand this mode of proceeding. If we are not to inflict upon traitors the penalty due to treason, why not, for a time at least, place them at their probation, and put them in a position in which they can do no harm? To administer an oath to a man found in arms, and who may have the moment previous taken the life of a loyal citizen or soldier, is one of the greatest farces ever enacted. What do such villains care for an oath? As they have already committed moral perjury, we would deceive ourselves by supposing that they will respect any public declaration of their loyalty. Reports almost daily reach us of the capture of secessionists who have been once released and are again found in arms. If the government does not desire the presence of these traitors in Washington, let them be sent to New York, or Boston, or any other point where a national work has been closed because of the war, and there let them learn a little concerning the honest labor heretofore performed by those whom Southern chivalry affect to despise. We can soon have a balance to draw against, and, in addition, we may be humanising and christianising the lazy whites of the Southern Confederacy.

The Oglethorp Cavalry.

THE New York Zouaves received the first charge of the famous Black Horse Guard, about which Gov. Wise has so often spoken. It was a splendid corps of cavalry, all the horses of which were coal black. They came upon the Zouave regiment at a gallop, and were received by the brave firemen upon their poised bayonets, followed instantly by a volley, from which they broke and fled, though several of the Zouaves were cut down in the assault. They quickly returned, with their forces doubled—perhaps 600 or 700—and again they dashed with fearful yells upon the excited Zouaves. This time they bore an American flag, and a part of the Zouaves supposed for an instant that they were friends, whom they had originally mistaken.

The flag was quickly thrown down, however, the horses dashed upon the regiment, the *ruse* was discovered, and the slaughter commenced. No quarter, no belting, no flinching now, marked the rapid and death-dealing blows of our men, as they closed in upon the foe, in their madness and desperation. Our brave fellows fell, the ranks filled up, the sabers, bowie knives, and bayonets glistened in the sun light, horse after horse went down, platoon after platoon disappeared—the rattle of musketry, the screams of the rebels, the shout of "Remember Ellsworth!" from the lungs of the Zouaves, and the yells of the wounded and crushed belligerents filled the air, and a terrible carnage succeeded. The gallant Zouaves fought to the death, and were sadly cut up; but of those hundreds of Black Horse Guards, not many left that bloody encounter. Semi-official statements put the living at nineteen, and of these three are not expected to survive their wounds. This is the troop which have boasted that they would picket their horses in the grounds of the White House at Washington.

Extracts from the Southern Press.

OFFICERS IN THE SOUTHERN ARMY.—The following is a list of the General Officers already appointed in the service of the Southern Confederate States:

GENERALS IN THE REGULAR ARMY.

Name.	State.	Former Occupation.
Samuel Cooper	Virginia	Adj Gen U S A.
Joseph E. Johnston	"	Quar Mast Gen U S A.
Robert E. Lee	"	Col Cavalry U S A.
MAJOR GENERALS IN THE PROVISIONAL ARMY.		
P. G. T. Beauregard	Louisiana	Captain Eng U S A.
David E. Twiggs	Georgia	Brig Gen U S A.
Leonidas Polk	Louisiana	Captain Eng U S A.
BRIGADIER GENERALS IN THE PROVISIONAL ARMY.		
Braxton Bragg	Louisiana	Capt Artillery U S A.
Milledge L. Bonham	So. Carolina	M C from S C, late Col 13th Infantry, U S A
John B. Floyd	Virginia	Late U S Sec'y War.
Ben McCullough	Texas	Maj Texas Rangers.
Henry A. Wise	Virginia	Late Gov of Virginia.
Wm. H. T. Walker	Georgia	Lt Col Infantry U S A.
Benj Huger	So. Carolina	Major Ordnance U S A.
Henry R. Jackson	Georgia	Late Minister to Austria.
John B. Magruder	Virginia	Major Artillery U S A.
*Barnard E. Bee	So Carolina	Captain Infantry U S A.
Gideon D. Pillow	Tennessee	Maj Gen Tenn Army. late Maj Gen U S A.
Wm J Hardee	Georgia	Lt Col Cavalry U S A.
Nathan G. Evans	So. Carolina	Asst Adj Gen U S A.
†Robert S. Garnett	Virginia	Captain Infantry U S A.
David R. Jones	So. Carolina	Asst Adj Gen U S A.
James Longstreet	"	Paymaster U S A.
Andrew J. Donelson	Tennessee	Adj Gen Tenn.
Thos. T. Fauntleroy	Virginia	Col Cavalry U S A.
John H. Winder	Maryland	Major Artillery U S A.
Samuel R. Anderson	Tennessee	Maj Gen Tenn Army
Richard H. Anderson	So Carolina	Captain Infantry U S A.

* Killed at Manassas.
† Killed at Rich Mountain

All of these officers, with the exception of General Wise, are graduates of West Point, or seen service during the Mexican war. In selecting officers, President Davis has been guided by well known military ability of the nominee. The above list does not contain the names of all the appointees, as several are as yet unknown outside of the War Department, reasons of military policy requiring secrecy at present. The other Generals, such as Holmes, Hill, Gwynn, Ruggles, Cocke, Clemens, Pierce, Gatlin, Chase, Barto,‡ Johnson,‡ &c., are attached to the Provisional Armies of individual States.

It is proper to state that the military organization of the Southern Republic consists of three armies:—First, the regular army, to the command of which officers with the rank of *General* are appointed; second, the Provisional Army, which is directed by Major Generals and Brigadier Generals; third, the Volunteer Army, the appointments of which belong to the States.

‡ Killed at Manassas.

GUNPOWDER FOR THE REBELS.—We learn from the Charleston *Mercury*, that the Confederate Government has been informed that the Governor of Louisiana had taken possession of two hundred tuns of sulphur in his State, for the purpose of making gunpowder for the army. It belonged to private individuals, and was obtained by them for the purpose of being used in refining or manufacturing sugar. It is said the sugar planters or refiners will suffer considerable inconvenience in consequence of this seizure, but Governor Moore deemed the necessities of the State and Confederate States of more importance than the convenience of individuals. This sulphur is sufficient to make fifteen hundred tuns of gunpowder. Sulphur is an article of importation, and contraband of war. It cannot be obtained in this country, except by making it from the sulphurets of iron, copper or other minerals, or from the sulphur springs. The process would be exceedingly tedious, laborious, and expensive, of making sulphur from these substances, or from sulphur water. There is not so much difficulty in obtaining saltpeter, for there are caves of nitrous earth in most of the Confederate States. So that if we have sulphur enough, there need be no fear of an abundant supply of gunpowder for the most extensive or prolonged war.

MOVEMENTS OF THE REBEL GENERALS WISE AND LEE.—The Memphis *Argus* of July 22d says that General Wise has recently marched into the North-West with a legion of ten or twelve thousand strong. His headquarters, until a few days since, were at Charleston, Kanawha co., on the Great Kanawha river. It is now understood that he has advanced northward into Jackson co., and his progress will probably extend to Wood co. on the Ohio, the home of the notorious traitor, Gen. John J. Jackson. Gen. Floyd's brigade is undoubtedly following in Wise's track. At present these are the only forces of any consequence in the northwest, Gen. Garnett's column having been either cut to pieces or compelled to retreat from Beverly, in Randolph, across the Alleghanies into Pendleton and Highland. While the public attention was attracted to Winchester, Manassas and the points on the Potomac and Chesapeake, Gen. Scott was quietly pouring troops into the North-West from beyond the Ohio, and so formidable has his force become, that Gen. Garnett, with seven or eight thousand Virginians, found himself unable to arrest its progress. McClellan, undoubtedly the ablest abolition officer in Virginia, is now at the head of twenty-five or thirty thousand men, able to obtain reinforcements not only from the other side of the Ohio, but the "panhandle" section, where tories are more numerous than blackberries. The North-West has been our weak point, and General Scott seems well aware of the fact.

General Lee and his staff start to-morrow morning for North-Western Virginia. It is believed that he is going to take command of the entire Western division. He may probably fix his headquarters at Staunton. McClellan's Yankee tricks and night marches, pouncing upon two or three hundred of our men like a wildest out of the woods, will be brought to an end. I write this not by any means with a view to derogate from the brave and fearless officers already in command in that part of the State, for history furnishes no brighter examples of courage and intrepid daring, but it is well known that, as a prudent, skillful, cautious, yet bold and fearless commander, General Lee has no living superior. Our officers and men will regard it as a compliment that he has been assigned to duty in that part of the State which, so far, they have so nobly defended.

SOUTHERN EXULTATION.—JEFF. DAVIS sent the following dispatch to his wife immediately after the late battle, and it appears in the New Orleans *Delta*:

MANASSAS, July 21.

We have won a glorious though dearly bought victory. Night closed on the enemy in full flight and closely pursued. JEFF. DAVIS.

THE N. O. *Picayune* says:—In every corner of the land, and at every capital in Europe, it will be read as the exultant and emphatic indorsement, by a young and unconquerable nation, of the lofty assurance President Davis spread before the world on the very eve of the battle, that the noble race of freemen who inhabit these States will, whatever may be the proportions the war may assume, "renew their sacrifices and their services from year to year, until they have made good to the uttermost the right of self-government."

THE N. O. *Crescent* says:—The battle annals of the American continent furnish no parallel to the brilliant and splendid victory won by the Southern army on Sunday last over the hired mercenaries and minions of the abolition despotism.

With an inferior force, in point of numbers, we have driven back to their dens the boasting invaders of our soil, scattering them before our victorious arms as leaves are scattered before the autumn wind.

The victory is the more significant from the fact that it is the first general engagement between the opposing forces. That the President of the Confederate States was himself in the thickest of the fight, exposed to all the perils of the battle field, is another circumstance that adds to the joy of our triumph, and swells our triumphant note of exultation. All honor to our brave and gallant leader and President, to the brave Beauregard, the gallant Johnston, and our chivalric soldiery!

We have driven the enemy back from our soil, we have mowed down his men by the hundreds and the thousands, we have captured his batteries, and sent him howling and panic stricken from the field of the fight. The blow, in its moral and physical effects, will prove of incalculable advantage to the Southern cause.

The first regiment of the enemy that crossed over from Washington—the Zouaves of Ellsworth—have fled from the field with two hundred only left of the entire regiment. Retributive justice has overtaken the first of the enemy who put their feet upon the sacred soil of Virginia, and from six to eight hundred of them have been cut down dead upon the land which they insolently dared to invade.

THE Augusta (Geo.) *Chronicle* remarks:—We have met the enemy in force, and they are ours. We have staked all upon Manassas, and won! Remember lion-hearted Bartow's words:—"I go to illustrate Georgia." And nobly has he *illustrated* the Empire State; her valor, her chivalry, her desperate daring. Though dead he yet liveth. He fills a soldier's grave—but his memory is the inheritance of a whole people. On to avenge him! Bartow's, Gartrell's, Goulding's, and Anderson's regiments were, we suppose, the representatives of Georgia in the great fight! Heaven smiles on us, our arms, and our cause! Then onward! Follow the President, the gallant Jeff. Davis, who leads the center. Now for Washington!

War Movements in the West.

GEN. FREMONT and staff and a fleet of eight steamers, and four regiments of infantry, also several detached companies of light artillery, all equipped, arrived at Cairo on the 2d inst. They were enthusiastically received by the soldiers and citizens. Salutes were fired by the battery at Fort Prentiss. The troops were landed at Bird's Point, swelling the force at that camp to about 8,000.

The steamer B. N. Cheeny, running in connection with the Illinois Central and Mobile & Ohio Railroad, was seized at Columbia, Ky., on the 1st inst., by the rebels from Tennessee.

The St. Louis *Evening News* learns from a well informed citizen of South West Missouri, who possesses peculiar facilities for acquiring knowledge of the plan of secessionists in that region, that their real object is not to attack Cairo or Bird's Point, but to make a desperate attempt to secure possesion of St. Louis. There is a strong force under Gen. Pillow at New Madrid, Missouri; another at Pocahontas, Arkansas, believed to be under Ben McCullough, and another in Mississippi, under Jeff. Thompson. The plan is to keep up a constant threat to attack Cairo and Bird's Point, so as to keep the Federal troops there employed, menace Gen. Lyon in South-western Missouri by threats of an attack from Generals Price and Rains, while the forces at New Madrid and Pocahontas effect a junction at Pilot Knob, and from there march on St. Louis, take it, reinstate Gov. Jackson, and with this city as a basis of operations, wrest Missouri from the Federal Government.

Scouts who have just returned to Cairo, from the South, report that the rebels at New Madrid are well armed and well drilled, and that they have five batteries of 10 pound field pieces, which were officered by foreigners. They also have two regiments of cavalry, well equipped. Gen. Pillow, who is in command, has promised Claib Jackson to place 20,000 men in Missouri, at once. He has issued a proclamation declaring his intention to drive invaders from the State and enable the people to regain the rights so ruthlessly taken away by forces who march under the banners inscribed with beauty and booty as the reward of victory. He says he will show no quarter to those taken in arms.

Gen. Pope has established his head-quarters at Mexico, Mo., for the present. Gen. P. is assigned to the command of all the forces of St. Louis. These troops will consist principally of Illinois regiments, together by themselves, and thus form one grand arm of the Western army. This division will be ready, after thorough drilling and vigorous discipline in camp, for an advance movement through Arkansas and Texas, towards New Orleans, as soon as the excessively hot weather abates sufficiently to warrant the health of troops in that climate. A part of the troops are to be made up of the new regiments lately accepted from Illinois.

Gen. Pope hereafter designs to permit no more scouting, deeming it an injury to the proficiency of the troops for service. The people will be held strictly responsible for the depredations committed. If hostilities occur, and troops are called to their relief, they will be sent in sufficient numbers to take possession of the village or villages that may be making trouble. Soldiers will be quartered in the houses and draw rations of the citizens. This, it is believed, is the only means of making and keeping the people duly vigilant to their own and the United States interests.

Gen. Pope has publicly notified the people along the Northern Missouri Railroad that they will be held personally accountable for the destruction of bridges, culverts and portions of the track within five miles of each side of them, and that if any outrages to Railroad property are committed within the distance specified without conclusive proof of active resistance on the part of the population, and without immediate information to the nearest commanding officer, a levy of money and property sufficient to cover the whole damage done, will be made and collected. Divisions and subdivisions of the road will be made, and superintendents and assistant superintendents will be appointed without regard to political opinions, who will be held responsible for the Railroad track within that district.

A reliable gentleman who arrived at Louisville on the 3d inst., says that seven boats left Memphis last night, conveying troops to New Madrid. He says that not less than 20,000 Tennessee troops have been landed in Missouri. Isham G. Harris has probably been re-elected Governor of Tennessee. General Flourney, of Arkansas, died in Louisville on the 3d instant.

Col. Solomon's regiment and part of Seigel's arrived in St. Louis, from the South-West, on the 2d inst. The balance of Seigel's regiment will probably arrive to-day. These troops will be disbanded here, their time having expired, but nearly all of the two former regiments will re-enlist for the war. Efforts are being made to continue the organization of the reserved corps or the St. Louis Home Guard beyond the time of their regular enlistment.

Hundreds of people are coming into Illinois almost daily, who have been driven off from Missouri and Arkansas by the rebels. They represent that if the Federal Government would send a force and arms, to arm the people, more than one-half in both States would fight for the Union. The strength of the Missouri State forces, south of us, is stated to be about 7,000, including 2,500 Arkansas troops.

There are nearly 300 slaves doing military duty in one of Ben McCullough's regiments.

Gen. Lyon has officially expressed his high appreciation of the Generalship displayed by Col. Seigel, in the battle near Carthage, and of the soldier-like qualities of his officers and men exhibited in the engagement.

McCullough and Johnson's forces having devastated the country where they were encamped, are slowly moving northward in three divisions, for the better subsistence of the troops. We are quietly awaiting their approach, our troops being ready for a battle. The unfavorable news from Virginia has inspired them with a fresh desire to recover in the West whatever prestige may have been lost in the East. Gen. Lyon's command is only now about 6,000 strong, a considerable number of the three month's men having gone to St. Louis to receive their pay and be mustered out of service, a great majority of whom will immediately re-enlist and return soon.

The most outrageous falsehoods are being circulated in Arkansas and Texas, in order to induce men to enlist in the rebellion.

Affairs at Washington.

THE War Department has received the following direct from General Rosekranz by telegraph:

August 1.—Gen. Cox reached Gauley bridge on the 27th ult. Governor Wise fled without fighting, destroying a bridge to prevent pursuit. We have captured 1,000 muskets and several kegs of cannon powder. Many of the inhabitants of this section, who have hitherto been strong rebels, denounce Gov. Wise for wanton destruction of property, and are abandoning him and his cause. His Western troops are rapidly disbanding their forces. The valley of the Kanawha is now free of rebel troops.

It is suspected here that the army of the Potomac will not be kept idle so long a time as has been generally predicted. Its reorganization proceeds with great rapidity. The new troops arriving here are placed at once in brigades, and probably only a few days, or at furthest a few weeks, will be required, at the present rate of progress, to make a forward movement that will be more successful than the last. No doubts are entertained that Gen. McClellan will strike as soon as he is ready, without waiting for the weather. His plan of operations will not be disclosed until the precise moment for its execution. It is regarded here as an evidence of preparation for bold and energetic action, that the military authorities decline to give any information whatever to the press.

The following orders have been promulgated:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
WASHINGTON, July 30.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 12.

Searches of houses for arms, traitors or spies, and arrest of offenders in such matters, shall be made in any department only by the special authority of the commander thereof, except in extreme cases admitting of no delay. By command of Lieut. Gen. Scott.
E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 13.

WASHINGTON, AUG. 1.—It has been the prayer of every patriot that the tramp and din of civil war might at least spare the precincts within which repose the sacred remains of the Father of his Country; but this pious hope is disappointed. Mount Vernon, so recently consecrated anew to the immortal Washington by the ladies of America, has already been overrun by bands of rebels, who, having trampled under foot the Constitution of the United States, the ark of our freedom and prosperity, are prepared to trample on the ashes of him to whom we are all mainly indebted for those mighty blessings. Should the operations of the war take the United States troops in that direction, the Commander-in-chief does not doubt that each and every man will approach with due reverence, and leave uninjured, not only the tomb, but the house, the groves and the walks which were so loved by the greatest and best of men. WINFIELD SCOTT.
E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant.

The bill, which has passed both Houses prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors to soldiers, is in accordance with the reforms instituted by McClellan, and is a measure highly commended by all friends of civil order and military discipline. That commander has issued an order restricting the absence of both officers and privates from their commands, and has appointed Col. Porter as Provost Marshal of this city.

In accordance with the request of the President, several of the Congressional delegates have furnished him with lists of suitable persons in their States to be appointed to military grades. The President merely asked this to assist him in making selections, and it is not considered conclusive, as Officers of Volunteer Regiments will, according to recent orders, be subject to examination by a Military Board, to be appointed by the War Department, with the concurrence of Scott as to their fitness for positions assigned them, and officers found to be incompetent are to be rejected; besides, Government, it is understood, has assured McClellan of its readiness to accord to him the very best material in men and munitions, and of its cordial co-operation in everything that will render his forces efficient.

The following order has just been promulgated:

DIVISION OF THE POTOMAC,
HEADQUARTERS, WASHINGTON, July 30.

The General commanding the Division has, with much regret, observed that large numbers of officers and men stationed in the vicinity of Washington, are in the habit of frequenting the streets and hotels of the city. This practice is eminently prejudicial to good order and military discipline, and must at once be discontinued. The time and services of all persons connected with this division should be devoted to their appropriate duties with their respective commands. It is therefore directed that hereafter no officer or soldier be allowed to absent himself from his camp and visit Washington, except for the performance of some public duty, or for the transaction of important private business, for which purpose written permits will be given by the Commanders of Brigades. The permit will state the object of the visit. Brigade Commanders will be held responsible for the strict execution of this order.

Col. Andrew Porter, of the 16th U. S. Infantry, is detailed for temporary duty as Provost Marshal in Washington, and will be obeyed and instructed accordingly.

Col. Porter will report in person at the headquarters for instructions.

By command of Major-General McClellan.
S. WILLIAMS, Ass't Adjutant General.

Gen. Cameron, Secretary of War, on the 1st inst. directed Col. Franklin, the commandant of the forces at Alexandria, that from that day all slaves imprisoned at that post be liberated, and that they be employed on the fortifications and military works, and to be paid as day laborers in the service of the Government.

The appropriations thus far made by Congress amount to $240,000,000. The Secretary of War has asked for $20,000,000 on account of volunteers now being mustered into service. The bill for that purpose will probably be passed to-morrow.

It appears by an examination of the two Volunteer bills that one is supplemental to the other; that the President has power to call 1,000,000 men into the field, although that extent of authority was not designed it is believed. It is not thought that more than 500,000 men will be accepted.

The Members of Congress have been paid their last months' salary with $250 in gold, and $250 in the 6 per cent. treasury notes. The employes of other departments are hereafter to be paid in the same paper.

One of the communications recently sent hither under a flag of truce from Gen. Johnson, was, it is understood, in relation to a report which reached the Confederates, that some of them had been hung by order of our military authorities. As no such executions have taken place, it may be inferred that Gen. McDowell replied to this effect.

The Government has arranged with four manufacturers to have sixty rifled cannon turned out per week. With one firm a contract for three hundred has been made.

The following officers have been designated as a portion of the staff of Maj. Gen. McClellan: Major S. Williams, Assistant Adjutant General; Capt. S. Van Vliet, Assistant Quartermaster General; Capt. H. F. Clark, Assistant Commissary General; Major W. F. Barry, Chief of Artillery.

The Senate has confirmed numerous army appointments. Among them were Major-Generals McClellan, Fremont, Dix, Banks, and Brig.-Generals Hooker, Curtis, McCall, Sherman, Lander, Kelly, Kearney, Pope, Heintzelman, Porter, Stone, Reynolds, Hunter, Franklin, Rosekranz, Buell, Mansfield, McDowell and Meigs.

Prince Napoleon called on the President on the 3d inst., and was duly presented by the Secretary of State. The President received the Prince with marked courtesy, and welcomed him to the country in a few simple but hearty words. Without seeking, he said, to attach to this flattering visit of one so closely allied to the French throne at this solemn crisis in the country's history, an undue importance, he could not but feel that his presence at the Capital was a guarantee of the friendly interest of the French Government. The Prince replied with brevity and feeling. He used necessarily a certain diplomatic reserve, yet it is clear that he sympathizes with the Government of the United States, and that he is not, any more than the Emperor, favorable to the sad contingencies of revolution. It is understood that the Prince has been invited to review the Army of the Potomac, and he has accepted. Orders have been issued to this effect.

Congress—Extra Session.

SENATE.—Mr. Hale reported, from the Conference Committee, on the bill to appoint an Assistant Secretary of the Navy. The report was agreed to, and the bill passed. Also, report of the Committee of Conference on the bill increasing the Medical Corps of the Navy. The report was agreed to, and the bill stands passed.

Mr. Harris, from the Judiciary Committee, reported a bill for the suppression of the sale of intoxicating liquors in the District of Columbia. The bill provides that no person shall sell intoxicating drinks to United States soldiers, on penalty of a fine of $25 for each offense. The bill passed.

Mr. Ten Eyck, from the Judiciary Committee, reported a bill for requiring the oath of allegiance to be administered to all persons in the employ of Government. Bill passed.

Mr. Wilson, from the Military Committee, reported back the bill for the purchase of arms and ordnance stores. The bill makes an appropriation of ten million dollars. The bill passed.

Mr. Fessenden, from the Finance Committee, reported back the act supplementary to the act authorizing a loan, with amendments. The amendment authorizes the issuing of $5 treasury notes. The amendment was agreed to, and the bill passed.

A message was received from the House, that it had passed a bill for the purchase of arms, &c. By common consent the bill was taken up and passed.

The bill in relation to Superintendents of Navy Yards was then passed.

On motion of Mr. Chandler, the bill to increase the Consular representation of the United States during the rebellion, was taken up and passed.

A communication was received from the War Department, relative to the sick and wounded at the hospital, which was ordered printed.

The bill to provide for a Metropolitan Police Department of the District of Columbia, was taken up and passed.

On motion of Mr. Wilson, the bill supplementary to the act to increase the military establishment was taken up and passed.

Mr. Lane, of Indiana, offered a resolution asking the President to inform the Senate whether Hon. James H. Lane, of Kansas, had been appointed Brigadier-General, and if he has accepted the same. Adopted.

Mr. Saulsbury moved to take up the resolution of inquiry in reference to sending of arms to the State of Delaware. He said that Delaware was as loyal as any State in the Union, but persons attempted to make it appear that there were disloyal men there. Motion was agreed to.

Mr. Wilson introduced a bill making appropriations for fortifications. The bill provides for one hundred thousand dollars, and also prohibits flogging. Passed.

The bill to promote efficiency of volunteer forces of the United States, was taken up and passed.

The bill relating to the revenue service was taken up. It provides that the Secretary of the Navy may charter or purchase additional vessels for the revenue service. Passed.

The report of the Committee of Conference on the resolution to pay the widow of Stephen A. Douglas, was read and agreed to, and the bill passed.

HOUSE.—The House passed the Senate bill appropriating $200,000 to pay for the transportation and delivery of arms to loyal citizens in the rebellious States, and the organizing of such persons for their protection against insurrection and violence.

On motion of Mr. Blair, of Missouri, a resolution was adopted calling on the Secretary of War to communicate the letter of the Hon. Joseph Holt to the President on the 18th of February, in response to the resolution of the House requesting the reasons of sending United States troops to the seat of government.

On motion of Mr. Lovejoy, it was resolved that the thanks of this House are due and are hereby presented to the 8th Massachusetts regiment of volunteers, for their alacrity and patriotism in responding to the call of the President, surmounting obstacles, by sea and land, which traitors interposed to impede their progress to the defense of the National Capital.

Mr. Bingham, from the Judiciary Committee, reported back the Senate bill transferring the control over the District Attorney and Marshals, from the Secretary of the Interior to the Attorney-General. Passed.

Mr. Blair, from the Military Committee, reported a bill providing for the monthly pay of troops. Passed.

Mr. Sedgwick, from the Naval Committee, reported a bill, which was passed, authorizing additional enlistments in the navy for three years, or during the war, so as to place it in complete efficiency for active service.

Mr. Stevens, from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported a bill, which was passed, appropriating $100,000 for field fortifications for the defense of Washington.

The bill was passed appropriating $300,000 for the purchase of ordnance for the use of the navy, $12,000 for the completion of Charlestown (Mass.) barracks, and $30,000 for the purchase of the right to manufacture and use Coston's night signals.

Mr. Julian introduced a resolution, which was adopted, that the retention in office here, or throughout the country, of men well known of secession sentiments, merits the reprobation of all loyal citizens, and hereby receives the reprobation of this House.

Mr. Stevens, from the Committee of Conference on the Supplementary Loan Bill, made a report explaining that the disagreement of the two Houses had been compromised by striking out nine per cent. in certain cases and substituting six per cent.

Also, modifying the Sub-Treasury act, so that instead of gold and silver being immediately paid into the treasury, as now required, the money derived from the loan may remain in solvent banks until it shall be drawn out in pursuance of law.

Mr. F. A. Conklin inquired whether the Committee retained the duties from tea, coffee, sugar, &c., as a pledge for the loan.

Mr. Stevens replied that the Senate would not consent to that, and that, rather than lose the bill, the Committee had agreed to abandon that clause. The report was adopted by 83 to 34.

Mr. Elliot, from the Commerce Committee, reported the bill to suspend the operation of the act of March, 1848, relative to revenue cutters and steamers, so as to allow the Secretary of the Treasury to apply so much of the appropriation for the collection of the revenue to the charter or purchase of vessels for revenue service. Passed.

The Senate bill, authorizing the appointment of aids-de-camp, in addition to those now allowed by law, by the President, on recommendation either of Gen. Scott or Major-Generals, was passed.

Mr. Blair, of Missouri, rising to a personal explanation, read some remarks of Thurlow Weed against himself and his brother, Montgomery Blair, Postmaster-General, derogatory to them in connection with the war. As to the latter, Montgomery Blair, that gentleman could take care of himself. Although he (F. P. Blair) differed from Scott with reference to the conduct of the war, their personal relations were of the kindest character. He (F. P. Blair) showed that it was absurdly charged by Thurlow Weed that he (Blair), as Chairman of the Military Committee, had the bill reported by Senator Wilson, for an increase of the army, emasculated. Mr. Blair then referred to Mr. Richardson's repetition of conversation between Gen. Scott and the President relative to the late battle, and involving the responsibility of the fight.

Mr. Richardson remarked that he had endeavored to report that conversation honestly, and, if anything had escaped his memory, members of this House who were present on this occasion ought to have corrected him.

Mr. Washburne, as one of the gentlemen alluded to, said he did not understand his colleague (Richardson) as saying that Gen. Scott imputed that he had been forced by the President to fight the battle.

Mr. Richardson did not think his language had been fairly construed, if it was supposed that he had said, or intimated, that Gen. Scott implied that the President had forced him into the movement.

Mr. Blair alluded to this matter for a double purpose. He understood that Gen. Scott did, in that conversation, exonerate the President from having any part in forcing him to the battle.

Mr. Richardson replied that he had not understood Gen. Scott as implying that the President forced him to fight the battle.

Mr. Blair replied that was the very essence of the matter. The President should retain the confidence of the people of the country, but this he could not do so long as it is held out that the President forced Gen. Scott to fight a battle against his will; but as the President did not take the responsibility of forcing a battle before troops were ready, he will still retain, as he deserves, the confidence of the people.

Mr. Stevens, from the Committee of Conference, made a report on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Tariff and Direct Tax bill. He explained that the Committee took up the House Revenue bill as a foundation of conference. They have reduced duty on coffee from 5 to 4 cents per lb., on cocoa from 0 to 3 cents per lb., on sugar from 2½ to 2 cents per lb., on chickory to 2 cents per lb., and on ground chickory from 4 to 2 cents per lb. They added so much of the Senate Tariff bill as referred to liquors, adding 25 cents to the duty on brandy, making 125 cents per gallon. On other liquors and wines they added 10 cents ad valorem, and on imported and distilled liquors 50 cents.

The Committee next took up the House bill providing for a direct tax. Members of the Senate Committee were of the opinion that they could not get along without uniting the two bills. They therefore took up the Direct Tax bill as passed by the House, with unessential alterations, and then the income tax proposition of the Senate. This income tax was not as burdensome as that of the House. The House had proposed an income tax on $600, while the Senate placed the amount at not far below $800, with a tax of two per cent. per annum. When the income tax is derived from persons residing abroad, but drawing money from their property in this country, the tax is to be 5 per cent. per annum. The Committee thought it right that this class should bear more of burden than those who spend their money in this country. The Committee have also provided that in States which assume to collect direct tax, there shall be none of the machinery for that purpose provided by the House, nor so large a number of persons appointed to collect the tax. The Secretary of the Treasury is to appoint one Assessor and Collector in each State where the United States Government collects taxes, and the latter is to appoint assistants, but the compensation is not to exceed $1,500 for the principals, and $1,200 per annum for assistants. On the whole, though by this joint arrangement they lose $300,000, the machinery is simplified and the expenses of collecting much reduced. He had no doubt that the bill would be more satisfactory to the country. In answer to the question, Mr. Stevens said that 10 per cent. had been added on silk goods.

The report of the Conference Committee was concurred in, 89 to 39.

Mr. Brigham, from Judiciary Committee, reported a bill to punish certain crimes. It proposes that recruiting, in any State or Territory, an army hostile to the United States, be considered a high misdemeanor, punishable with a fine from $200 to $1,000, and imprisonment from one to three years. It punishes similarly, but not to such an extent, those who thus enlist, and those who, by word, writing or publication, encourage enlistments. The bill passed, and subsequently the House adjourned.

The Confiscating Bill.

CONGRESS has passed an Act confiscating such property as may be used for insurrectionary purposes, which reads thus:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That if, during the present or any future insurrection against the Government of the United States, after the President of the United States shall have declared by proclamation that the laws of the United States are opposed and the execution thereof obstructed, by combinations too powerful to be suppressed by the ordinary course of judicial proceedings, or by the power vested in the marshals by law, any person or persons, his, her, or their agent, attorney, or employe, shall purchase or acquire, sell or give, any property of whatsoever kind or description, with intent to use or employ the same, or suffer the same to be used or employed, in aiding, abetting, or promoting such insurrection or resistance to the laws, or any person or persons engaged therein; or if any person or persons, being the owners of any such property, shall knowingly use or employ, or consent to the use or employment of the same as aforesaid, all such property is hereby declared to be lawful subject of prize and capture wherever found; and it shall be the duty of the President of the United States to cause the same to be seized, confiscated and condemned.

§ 2. *And be it further enacted,* That such prizes and captures shall be condemned in the district or circuit court of the United States having jurisdiction of the amount, or in admiralty in any district in which the same may be seized, or into which they may be taken and proceedings first instituted.

§ 3. *And be it further enacted,* That the Attorney General, or any district attorney of the United States of any district in which said property may at the time be, may institute the proceedings of condemnation, and in such case they shall be wholly for the benefit of the United States; or any person may file an information with such attorney, in which case the proceedings shall be for the use of such informer and the United States in equal parts.

§ 4. *And be it further enacted,* That whenever any person claiming to be entitled to the service or labor of any other person, under the laws of any State, shall employ such person in aiding or promoting any insurrection, or in resisting the laws of the United States, or shall permit him to be so employed, he shall forfeit all right to such service or labor, and the person whose labor or service is thus claimed shall be thenceforth discharged therefrom, any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

ABOUT ADVERTISING.

FACTS FOR BUSINESS MEN.

As the season for Trade is again at hand, we would remind those who wish to Do Business the present Autumn and Fall, that the RURAL NEW-YORKER possesses extraordinary advantages as an ADVERTISING MEDIUM, its *actual circulation* exceeding by at least 20,000 that of *any other* paper published in this State or section of the Union (out of New York city.)

In addition to its immense circulation among the best portion of the Rural Population, (more particularly in New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, &c.,) it is taken by thousands of Business and Professional Men in Villages and Cities from Canada to California, and Maine to Minnesota. Hence, it is THE medium through which to reach, at once, **Tons of Thousands** of the most enterprising, progressive and wealthy Farmers, Horticulturists, &c., and hosts of Merchants, Mechanics, Manufacturers and Professional Men. Its pages are unquestionably the best and cheapest channel on this Continent for the Business Cards and Announcements of all who wish to address the **Agricultural and Horticultural Public**,—such as Dealers in Implements and Machinery,—Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Plants and Flowers,—Seeds and Fertilizers,—Improved Stock, Real Estate, &c.,—as well as for leading Publishers and Booksellers, (especially of standard and practical works,) Wholesale Dealers, Manufacturers, Educational Institutions, Land, Insurance and other Companies, Agencies, &c.; and indeed for all who wish to secure *large* and *wide*, and hence *profitable* publicity. The fact that but limited space is devoted to Advertising, and that a rigid censorship is exercised over that department (our aim being to keep the WHOLE PAPER free from quackery, humbug and deception,) renders the RURAL far more valuable as a medium of making known matters of value and utility—for its announcements are generally so new and of such character as to be read and heeded by all interested.

☞ ANY person so disposed can act as local agent for the RURAL NEW-YORKER, and those who volunteer in the good cause will receive gratuities, and their kindness be appreciated

☞ CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Subscribers wishing the address of their papers changed from one Post-Office to another, must specify the OLD address as well as the NEW to secure compliance with their requests.

☞ WESTERN AND SOUTHERN MONEY.—In the present deranged state of the currency, we are unable to use Western and Southern money, as our bankers will not purchase it at any rate of discount. Agents and Subscribers who cannot obtain New York, New England, Pennsylvania, or Canada Money, will please send us *U. S. Postage Stamps*, as they are far preferable to any uncurrent bank bills.

☞ ASSOCIATED EFFORT leads to success in canvassing for periodicals, as well as in other enterprises. For instance, if you are forming (or wish to form) a club for the RURAL NEW-YORKER, and cannot fill it up in your own neighborhood, get some person or persons a few miles distant to join with or assist you—adding their names to those you may procure, and sending all together. Please think of this, and act upon the suggestion if convenient.

Markets, Commerce, &c.

Rural New-Yorker Office,
ROCHESTER, August 6, 1861.

FLOUR is without change.

GRAIN—But very little is doing, and the rates quoted may be called nominal.

MEATS—Mess Pork is still declining, and we take off $1,00 ℔ barrel in rates. Lambs do not bring as much by 25 cents as last week.

EGGS are dull at 10 cents.

WOOL is only offered in small quantities, and the prices rule as last quoted.

HAY—As new hay is coming in very freely a falling off is noticed equal to $1 00@2,00 ℔ ton.

ROCHESTER WHOLESALE PRICES.

FLOUR AND GRAIN		Eggs, dozen	10@10c
Flour, winter wheat	$5.00@6.25	Honey, box	12@14c
Flour, spring do	4 25@4.75	Candles, box	10½@11c
Flour, buckwheat	2.00@2.00	Candles, extra	12@12c
Meal, Indian	90@93c	FRUIT AND ROOTS.	
Wheat, Genesee	1 00@1 23	Apples, bushel	60@75c
Best white Canada	1.28@1 30	Apples, dried ℔ lb.	2½@3c
Corn, old	40@42c	Peaches, do	12@12c
Corn, new	40@42c	Cherries, do.	12@12c
Rye, 60 lbs. ℔ bush.	50@50c	Plums, do.	00@8c
Oats, by weight	25@28c	Potatoes	25@33c
Barley	50@50c	HIDES AND SKINS.	
Buckwheat	35@40c	Slaughter	3@3½c
Beans	1 00@1.25	Calf	5@6c
MEATS.		Sheep Pelts	10@12c
Pork, Mess	$15.00@16 00	Lamb Pelts	15@31c
Pork, clear	17 00@18 00	SEEDS.	
Pork, cwt	5 00@5.50	Clover, bushel	$5.00@5.25
Beef, cwt	4.00@5.50	Timothy	2.50@3.00
Spring lambs, each	1.25@1 75	SUNDRIES.	
Mutton, carcass	4@5c	Wood, hard	$3 00@5 00
Hams, smoked	9@10c	Wood, soft	3 00@3.00
Shoulders	6@6c	Coal, Lehigh	7 00@7 00
Chickens	9@10c	Coal, Scranton	5 75@6.00
Turkeys	10@11c	Coal, Pittston	5 75@6 00
Geese	40@50c	Coal, Shamokin	5 75@6 00
Ducks ℔ pair	38@44c	Coal, Char	10@12½c
DAIRY, &c.		Salt, bbl	1 35@1 42
Butter, roll	9@10c	Hay, tun	8 00@10.00
Butter, firkin	8@10c	Straw, ton	0.00@0.00
Cheese	4@6c	Wool, ℔ lb	18@28c
Lard, tried	8½@9c	Whitefish, half bbl	0 00@3.25
Tallow, rough	6@5½c	Codfish, quintal	4 00@4.50
Tallow, tried	7½@8c	Trout, half bbl	3.00@3.25

THE PROVISION MARKETS.

NEW YORK, AUGUST 5.—FLOUR—Market may be quoted a shade firmer, with a fair demand for export. Sales at $4,10@4,15 for superfine State, $4,30@4 35 for extra do, $3,95@4,10 for superfine Western, $4 25@4,45 for common to medium extra do, $4,90@5,00 for shipping brands extra round hooped Ohio, and $5,10@6 10 for trade brands do,—market closing firm. Canadian flour may be quoted a shade firmer, with a moderate demand. Sales at $4,05@4,10 for superfine, and $4 30@7,50 for common to choice extra. Rye flour steady, with small sales at $2,25@3,90. Corn meal steady and in moderate demand, with sales at $2,85 for Jersey, and 150 puncheons at $15@15,25.

GRAIN—Wheat market may be quoted 1c better, with a limited supply and a fair business doing for export, in part for France. Sales Milwaukee club at 95c@$1,00, Canada club at $1,02, amber Green Bay at $1,02@1,03, winter red Western at $1,15@1,16½, amber Iowa at $1,03, very choice do. $1,05@1,08, white Michigan at $1,25@1,30 and white Kentucky at $1 35. Rye quiet and without material change, sales at 47c for Western—Barley and Barley malt continue dull and nominally unchanged. Peas remain quiet and nominal at 65c for Canadian. Corn market may be quoted 1c better, with only a limited supply and a good demand for export and home consumption.—Sales at 45@46½c for good sound shipping mixed Western, 43@45c for Eastern do, 30@42c for unsound do and, 42@50c for inferior to good yellow Western. Oats plenty and dull at 25@28c for Canadian, and 31½@32½c. for Western and State.

PROVISIONS—Pork market rules a shade easier, sales at $15,75 for mess, $10 63@10,87 for prime. Beef rules quiet, sales at $4@4,50 for country prime, $5 00@5,50 for country mess; $8@10,00 for re-packed mess, and $11 50@12 50 for extra mess. Prime mess beef continues dull and nominally unchanged, at $17@18. Beef hams selling slowly at $14 50@16,00. Cut meats are quiet, with sales trifling at 4½@5c for Shoulders, and 5@6c for Hams. Smoked meats scarce and very quiet. Bacon dull and prices nominally unchanged. Lard firm, with a moderate demand, sales at 8@9½c. for No 1 to choice Western. Butter dull and selling at 7@10½c for Ohio and 8@14cts for State—Cheese in moderate request, and selling at 4@7c for inferior to prime.

HOPS—The market remains very firm, with a good demand from consumers and exporters, the sales reach 300 bales at 18@27c—the latter for choice, which are very scarce. In old, some 150 bales 1859's sold for consumption at 10@12½ cts., nothing done in older growths. The English crop accounts are more favorable, but our stock being small, they have little or no effect.

ASHES—The sales are 100 bbls. Pot at $5,25, and a few Pearl at $5,37½.

ALBANY, AUGUST 5.—FLOUR AND MEAL.—The market for Flour opened steady, with a good home and Eastern demand at unchanged prices.

Common to good State	$3.70@3.90
Fancy and extra State	4.00@4.50
Common to good Western	4.00@4.50
Extra Michigan, Wisconsin, Indiana, &c.	4.15@6.75
Extra Ohio	6.00@6.75
Common Canadian	4.00@4.50
Extra Canadian	4.75@6.75
Fancy Genesee	6.00@6.50
Extra Genesee and city brands	6.00@7.00

Corn meal is steady and in limited request at 94c@1,06 ℔ 100 pounds.

GRAIN—Wheat in more active demand, principally for milling, sales new winter red Western at $1 06c, to arrive. Rye—A car load sold at 60c at depot, in store at 62c. Oats, no sales. At the Board of Trade, receivers of Corn were asking an advance, but the receipts being fair, no improvement was obtained, sales mixed Western afloat at 42½c, car lots at same.

BUFFALO, AUGUST 5.—FLOUR—Quiet, and sales to-day of Illinois at $3,50, Wisconsin extra at $3,75@4,12½, choice do. at $4,25, extra Indiana and Ohio $4,50@5,00, and $5,25@5,75 for double extras.

GRAIN—Wheat, prices tending upward, with sales to-day of 18,000 bu Milwaukee club on private terms. Corn, better feeling, sales at 31½@32c, and 4,000 bu. out of condition, at 30c.—Oats, market better, sales at 24c. Barley nominal at 45@50c. Rye, last sale at 44c.

PROVISIONS—Market dull and sales confined to local demand. We quote Mess pork at $14 50. Prime at $7.50. Hams at 8@8½c. Shoulders at 5@6c. Lard at 8@8½c. Cheese at 6@9c for old, and 4@5c for new.

TORONTO, AUGUST 3.—FLOUR—Flour remains, as usual, dull and depressed, with constant effort to sell and no disposition to buy. Even good round lots of fresh ground are without demand, and there has never been a time when the market was so utterly stagnant. Under the circumstances no quotations would indicate value, but the following are the nominal rates most frequently spoken of:

Superfine	$4,20@4,25
Extra	5,00@5,00
Fancy	4,40@4,50
Double Extra	5,50@6,00

GRAIN—For fall wheat the market is well sustained, considering all the unfavorable circumstances, and prices are quite equal to those of last week. The presence of a few small orders from New England millers imparts a firm tone to the market, and the limited deliveries from farmers more off at pretty full prices. The recent quotations are for common to good 90c@$1 per bushel, good to prime $1 @1,05, with an occasional purchase at $1,07. The average rate of the past few days would not be over $1. Spring wheat is not in such good request, and the demand is flat, with but light deliveries at 75@82c ℔ bushel. Barley, there has been no barley offering during the week, and prices are purely nominal at 50c ℔ bushel. The prospects of the crops were never better, and the yield is likely to be still larger than last year. We hope as good prices will be realized, but the probability thereof is but slight. Oats are again scarce and in demand at 32@35c ℔ bushel. The crop this year, we regret to learn, will be light as compared with last season, a circumstance, however, that may be atoned for by somewhat better prices which a light crop may produce. Peas continue in fair request, though the rates are hardly so firm, at 40@43c ℔ bushel.—*Globe.*

THE CATTLE MARKETS.

NEW YORK, JULY 31.—The current prices for the week at all the markets are as follows:

BEEF CATTLE.	
First quality, ℔ cwt	$8.00@8.25
Ordinary quality	7 50@8.00
Common quality	7 00@7.00
Inferior quality	6 50@7.00
COWS AND CALVES.	
First quality	$50.00@55.00
Ordinary quality	40.00@50.00
Common quality	30.00@35.00
Inferior quality	22 00@28.00
VEAL CALVES.	
First quality, ℔ lb	4@5½c
Ordinary quality	4 @4½c
Common quality	3½@4 c
Inferior quality	3 @3½c
SHEEP AND LAMBS.	
Prime quality, ℔ head	$4.25@5.00
Ordinary quality	3.75@4.00
Common quality	3.00@3.50
Inferior quality	2.25@3.00
SWINE.	
First quality, ℔ lb	4 @4½c
Other qualities	3½@3½c

CAMBRIDGE, JULY 31.—At market 286 Cattle, 250 Beeves, and 36 Stores, consisting of Working Oxen, Cows and Calves, Yearlings, two and three years old, not suitable for Beef.

PRICES—Market Beef—Extra, $6.25@6.75, first quality, $6.00, second do, $5.50@0 00, third do, $4.50.

WORKING OXEN—None.

COWS AND CALVES—$30@45.

STORES—Yearlings, none. Two years old, none; Three years old, none.

SHEEP AND LAMBS—1,575 at market. Prices in lots at $1 50@1.75 each, extra and selections $1 87@2.75.

Spring Lambs $1.50@2.50.

HIDES—4½@5c ℔ lb. Tallow, 5@5½c.

PELTS—25@$1. Calf Skins, 8@9c ℔ lb.

VEAL CALVES—$0@0.

BRIGHTON, AUGUST 1.—At market 900 Beeves, 90 Stores 1,670 Sheep and Lambs, and 400 Swine.

PRICES—Market Beef—Extra, $6.75, first quality, $6.00, second do, $6.00, third do, $5.50.

MILCH COWS—$45@47, common, $19@20.

WORKING OXEN—$90, $101@116.

VEAL CALVES—$3, $4@4,50.

YEARLINGS—None, two years old, $00@00, three years old, $18@19 each.

HIDES—4½@5c. Tallow, 6c.

CALF SKINS—8@9c.

SHEEP AND LAMBS—$1 25@1,50; extra and selections, $1,75@$4.50.

PELTS—37c.@$1 00.

SWINE—Stores, wholesale, 0½@5c, retail, 6@7½c; fat hogs, still fed, none; corn fed, none; spring pigs none.

ALBANY, AUGUST 5.—BEEVES.—The market is dull, and there are too many cattle here. Prices have receded ¼c ℔ lb., gross weight, with an extremely dull market at that. The weather, too, is against trading. From early morning until after 4 P. M., the heat was so intense that it was really dangerous to remain in the yards long enough to examine a good sized drove of cattle. This fact, added to the comparative heavy decline in prices, tended to restrain speculations, and but few lots changed hands.

RECEIPTS—The following is our comparative statement of receipts at this market over the Central Railroad, estimating 16 to the car:

	This week.	Last week.	Cor. week last year.
Cattle	3,360	2,986	2,972
Sheep	3,879	3,084	3,618
Hogs			106

PRICES—The sales made thus far justify us in quoting the market at least ¼c ℔ lb., live weight, lower than last week, and as the market closes there are no indications of an improvement.

	This week.	Last week.
Premium	0 @0 c	0 @ c
Extra	4½@ c	4½@4½c
First quality	3½@3¾c	3½@4 c
Second quality	3 @3¼c	3 @3½c
Third quality	2½@2¾c	2½@2¾c

SHEEP AND LAMBS—Supply in excess of the demand and but comparatively few selling—say 600 or 800 head fair to good average about 100 lbs. at 3c ℔ lb. For a lot selected, of extra quality, and aver. 123 lbs. $3.40 ℔ head was offered and refused, the holder asking $3.50.

HOGS—Market neglected and receipts heavy. About 4,500 head arrived at East Albany for the week, a few sales of good to prime corn-fed are making at 3½@4c ℔ lb.—*Atlas and Argus.*

TORONTO, AUGUST 3.—BEEF—Fresh beef, of first class quality, is in good supply, with only moderate demand at $5 ℔ 100 lbs.; second class, $3,50@4,00.

SHEEP are very plentiful—more so than at almost any other period—at $3,50@4 each, and very dull of sale at that. Lambs $1,75@2 each.

CALVES—In good supply, at 3,50@5.

HIDES—Beef hides are not very firm at $4 ℔ 100 lbs., with a slight downward tendency. Lamb skins and pelts, 30c. each.—Calf skins 8c ℔ lb.

TALLOW, 6½c, with a likelihood of 6c. as the outside rate.—*Globe.*

THE WOOL MARKETS.

NEW YORK, AUGUST 2.—A moderate demand prevails for medium fleeces at steady prices. Other descriptions, however, are exceedingly dull and nominal. Sales of 41,000 lbs. at 28@34c, and 150 bales Cordova on private terms.

American Saxony Fleece ℔ lb.	50@55
American full-blood Merino	45@48
American half and three-quarter blood Merino	38@42
Native and one-fourth Merino	32@35
Extra, Pulled	36@40
Superfine, Pulled	30@35
No 1, Pulled	23@25
Lamb's, Pulled	27@30
California, fine, unwashed	24@33
California, common do	10@18
Peruvian, washed	28@34
Valparaiso unwashed	11@15
South American Merino, unwashed	16@33
Do do Mestiza, do	16@23
Do do common, washed	10@13
Do do Entre Rios, do	16@18
Do do. Entre Rios, unwashed	9@10
Do do Cordova, washed	20@22
Cape Good Hope, unwashed	25@28
East India, washed	12@25
African, washed	10@28
Do unwashed	9@18
Smyrna, do.	11@14
Do washed	23@26
Mexican, unwashed	11@14

[*New York Evening Post.*

BOSTON, AUGUST 2.—The demand for medium grades of fleece and pulled wool continues active, but fine wools are as dull as previously noticed. The arrivals of new fleece have been fair, but in the country there is scarcely anything doing compared with previous years. The sales have been 250,000 lbs fleece and pulled at prices ranging from 25@37c. ℔ lb. In foreign there has been considerable doing in grades suitable for army clothing. Sales of 50 bales Cape, 1,900 ballots Peruvian, and 300 bales Mediterranean, at various prices, as to quality.

Saxony Fleece	38@40	Pulled No 1	25@30
Full blood Merino	36@36	Do No. 2	16@20
Three-fourth do	34@35	Texas	9@40
Half do	32@34	Smyrna, washed	12@26
Common	30@33	Do unwashed	9@17
Western mixed	30@35	Buenos Ayres	8@45
Pulled Extra	38@43	Crimea	7@17
Do. Superfine	30@33	Canada	29@33

DETROIT, AUGUST 2.—Stocks are moving off rather more freely, but there has been no change in prices within the week, the following being the range:

Fall blood	28c
Three quarter blood	26c
Quarter to half blood	23@25c
Native	20c

Those looking for wools appear very firm in the determination not to advance beyond our quotations. In a few instances an agent in the country paid 30@31c, but the offence was considered unpardonable, and his agency was promptly withdrawn. One of our city dealers has sold 6,000 lbs. to a Utica manufacturer at 23c for coarse and 25½c for medium.

At Fentonville a buyer from Elmira, N. Y., has taken 40,000 lbs. at 20@25c.

A Detroit buyer has taken this week 15,000 lbs. at Mt. Clemens at an average of 24½c, about 10,000 lbs at Fentonville at an average of 24½c, about the same quantity at St. Johns at an average of 23½c, about the same at Ionia, at an average of 23c, and some 14,000 lbs at Saline at an average of 23c. The market closes steady.—*Tribune.*

CINCINNATI, AUGUST 2.—Wool in good demand at 20@30c, the latter an extreme rate for choice fleece. The receipts are light, being only 201 bales for the week. The receipts since September 1st, were 5,132 bales, against 7,962 the same time last season.—*Gazette.*

CHICAGO, AUGUST 3.—During the week the receipts have been light, and under an improved demand by manufacturers of army clothes, coarse qualities have been in active request, and prices are fully 2@3c better, ranging 20@25c for native to ¼ blood. We quote native 20@25c, ¼ blood 22@25c, ½ to ¾ blood 25@27c; full blood 27@30c.—*Journal.*

TORONTO, AUGUST 3.—Wool is without much animation. The supplies fall short, and the market is not very attractive at 22c. ℔ lb., compared with 27@28c. of last year. Still, there is no prospects of improvement, and 22c is as high a rate, considering the quality of wool, as paid at any other producing point on the Continent.—*Globe.*

Married.

July 29th, 1861, by Rev. THOS. CUNNINGHAM, Batavia, Genesee Co., THOMAS J. CAREY, Esq., of Covington, Wyoming Co., and Miss MARGARET E. O'SHAUGHNESSY, of Irvington, Westchester Co., N. Y.

AT the residence of the bride's father, on the 1st inst., by Rev. Mr NOTT, CYRUS BEARDSLEY, Esq., and HELEN M., daughter of S. K. WARREN, all of this city.

IN Pittsford, on the 8th inst. by the Rev. M. TOOKER, H. D. ROWLEY, of Rochester, and EMELINE M., eldest daughter of L. D. MITCHELL, Esq., of Pittsford.

Died.

AT Albion, Orleans Co., N. Y., July 1st, of dysentary, Mrs. POLLY LATTIN, wife of JOSEPH A. LATTIN, and only sister of Col. JOSEPH WRIGHT. Poughkeepsie papers please copy.

Advertisements.

ADVERTISING TERMS, in Advance—THIRTY-FIVE CENTS A LINE, each insertion. A price and a half for extra display, or 52½ cents per line of space. SPECIAL NOTICES, (following reading matter, leaded,) Sixty Cents a Line.

☞ Its immense circulation among the Producers and Dealers of the Free States, renders the RURAL NEW-YORKER by far the Best and Cheapest Advertising Medium of its class. This FACT should be borne in mind by all Wholesale Dealers, Manufacturers, &c., who must necessarily depend upon the People of the North for patronage.

CHESTER COUNTY PIGS—An extra good lot, properly paired, for sale by
604-3t J. R. PAGE, Sennett, N. Y.

TO SEEDSMEN.—Champion of England, Early Kent, Bishop's Dwarf Long Pod Dwarf, Dwarf Blue Imperial, Marrowfat, and other Peas, raised by
604-6t ROBERT HUME, Port Hope, Canada West.

Electric Weather Indicator.—Every Farmer should have one of these neat and useful instruments, which foretell the weather from 12 to 24 hours in advance. Mailed free, on receipt of 50 cents, by the manufacturers.
LEE & CO., Newark, N. J.

SOMETHING NEW—AGENTS WANTED—An Agent wanted in each County throughout the Union, to engage in an honorable business, that pays from $4 to $6 a day. No Humbug. Send stamp for particulars to
604-2t SANDERSON & BRO., Newark, N. Y.

ELMIRA FEMALE COLLEGE.—NEXT SESSION OPENS SEPT. 5th.—With a superior course of study, distinct departments, annual graded classes, a regular College charter, and with an experienced and thoroughly organized faculty of instruction. Also, a department of domestic duties. Terms, for Board and Tuition, $75.00 per half yearly session. Send for a Catalogue to the Clerk, W. F. BENJAMIN, Elmira, Chemung Co., N. Y. For admission apply to REV. A. W. COWLES, D. D., President.

HICKOK'S PATENT PORTABLE KEYSTONE CIDER AND WINE MILL.

THIS admirable machine is now ready for the fruit harvest of 1861. It is, if possible, made better than ever before, and well worthy the attention of farmers wanting such Machines.

It has no superior in the market, and is the only mill that will properly grind Grapes. Price, $40. For sale by dealers or the manufacturer
W. O. HICKOK,
604-10t Eagle Works, Harrisburg, Pa.

AGENTS! Something New!—One Agent wanted in every County. 4 new articles wanted in every family. No humbug. Satisfaction given or money refunded,—200 per cent. profits. Samples, 25 cts. each. Address, with stamp, RICE & CO., 83 Nassau St., New York.

TREES AT LOW PRICES.

Ellwanger & Barry

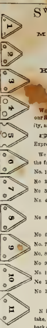
RESPECTFULLY invite the attention of the public to their present immense stock, covering upwards of FIVE HUNDRED ACRES OF LAND, and embracing everything desirable in both

FRUIT and ORNAMENTAL DEPARTMENT,

Grown in the very best manner, and offered either at wholesale or retail, at greatly reduced prices.

Parties who contemplate planting should avail themselves of this opportunity, the like of which may not occur soon again.

Descriptive and Wholesale Catalogues forwarded gratis, and all information as to prices, &c., promptly given on application.
604-4teo MOUNT HOPE NURSERIES,
August 1, 1861. ROCHESTER, N. Y.



SWEET BROTHERS & CO.,
SYRACUSE, N. Y.,
MANUFACTURER
OF
MOWING MACHINE
KNIVES AND
Cutter Bars.

We would call the attention of Farmers to our Knives. They are of a very superior quality, and warranted.

☞ Orders promptly filled through the Express Co.

We have the following patterns on hand at the following prices.

	Cents.
No. 1—Wood's Small Knife	13
No 2—Hubbard's Little Mower	13
No 3—Hubbard's Rivet Knife to Screw bar	13
No 4—Hubbard's two-hole Knife, 1860 and 1861	15
No 5—Hubbard's three-hole Knife, 1859 and 1860	18
No 6—Russel's Knife	15
No. 7—Allen's Knife	18
No. 8—Kirby's Knife	15
No 9—Cayuga Chief Knife	18
No 10—New York Buckeye	18
No 11—Wood's Large Knife	18
No 12—Ohio and Dansville, N. Y. Buckeye Knife	18

N. B.—In ordering Knives, to avoid any mistake, always take a Knife and mark on the back of the letter, around the outside and in the rivet holes.

SWEET BROTHERS & CO.,
603-3t Syracuse, N. Y.

A Splendid Farm to Let for a Term OF 5 YEARS.—The subscriber, having been in feeble health for several years, has now concluded to try long sea voyages, and will let about 300 acres (all tillable) of his farm for a money rent. The farm is in perfect order and one of the best in the State for either grain or grass, excellently watered, buildings first rate. As he intends sailing by 1st of October it is important that intending offerers should view it immediately.
602-tf ROBT. J. SWAN.
Rose Hill Farm, near Geneva, Ont. Co., N. Y., July 20, 1861.

FALLEY SEMINARY, Fulton, N. Y., offers Board, Washing, Fuel and Room furnished, except sheets and pillow cases, 14 weeks for $28. Tuition $4 to $8. Term opens Aug. 15th. 602-4t
Address J. P. GRIFFIN, Principal.

FAIRFIELD SEMINARY.—$27.56 pays for Board, Washing, Fuel, and furnished Room, for the Fall Term, commencing August 21st, 1861, in this, one of the oldest and most flourishing institutions in the land. Tuition from $4 to $6, and Extra Branches at the usual low rates.

MADAME PELISSE, a native French Teacher of eight years successful experience in one of the best Ladies' Seminaries in New York City, has been added to the present able and efficient Faculty.

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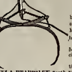

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GARDEN STATE OF THE WEST.

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LANDS OF ILLINOIS.

No State in the Valley of the Mississippi offers so great an inducement as the State of Illinois. There is no portion of the world where all the conditions of climate and soil so admirably combine to produce those two great staples, CORN and WHEAT, as the Prairies of Illinois.

THE SOUTHERN PART

of the State lies within the zone of the cotton regions, while the soil is admirably adapted to the growth of tobacco and hemp; and the wheat is worth from fifteen to twenty cents more per bushel than that raised further north.

RICH ROLLING PRAIRIE LANDS.

The deep rich loam of the prairies is cultivated with such wonderful facility that the farmers of the Eastern and Middle States are moving to Illinois in great numbers. The area of Illinois is about equal to that of England, and the soil is so rich that it will support twenty millions of people.

EASTERN AND SOUTHERN MARKETS.

These lands are contiguous to a railroad 700 miles in length, which connects with other roads and navigable lakes and rivers, thus affording an unbroken communication with the Eastern and Southern markets.

APPLICATION OF CAPITAL.

Thus far, capital and labor have been applied to developing the soil; the great resources of the State in coal and iron are almost untouched. The invariable rule that the mechanical arts flourish best where food and fuel are cheapest, will follow at an early day in Illinois, and in the course of the next ten years the natural laws and necessities of the case warrant the belief that at least five hundred thousand people will be engaged in the State of Illinois in various manufacturing pursuits.

RAILROAD SYSTEM OF ILLINOIS.

Over $100,000,000 of private capital have been expended on the railways of Illinois. Inasmuch as part of the income from several these works, with a valuable public fund in lands, go to diminish the State expenses, the TAXES ARE LIGHT, and must consequently every day decrease.

THE STATE DEBT.

The State Debt is only $10,105,398, 14, and within the last three years has been reduced $2,959,746 80, and we may reasonably expect that in ten years it will become extinct.

PRESENT POPULATION.

The State is rapidly filling up with population; 868,025 persons having been added since 1850, making the present population 1,723,663, a ratio of 102 per cent. in ten years.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

The Agricultural products of Illinois are greater than those of any other State. The products sent out during the past year exceeded 1,500,000 tons. The wheat crop of 1860 approaches 35,000,000 bushels, while the corn crop yields not less than 140,000,000 bushels.

FERTILITY OF THE SOIL.

Nowhere can the industrious farmer secure such immediate results for his labor as upon these prairie soils, they being composed of a deep rich loam, the fertility of which, is unsurpassed by any on the globe.

TO ACTUAL CULTIVATORS.

Since 1854, the company have sold 1,300,000 acres. They sell only to actual cultivators, and every contract contains an agreement to cultivate. The road has been constructed thro' these lands at an expense of $30,000,000. In 1850 the population of the forty nine counties through which it passes was only 335,598; since which 479,293 have been added, making the whole population 814,891, a gain of 143 per cent.

EVIDENCES OF PROSPERITY.

As an evidence of the thrift of the people, it may be stated that 600,000 tons of freight, including 8,600,000 bushels of grain, and 250,000 barrels of flour, were forwarded over the line last year.

EDUCATION.

Mechanics and workingmen will find the free school system encouraged by the State, and endowed with a large revenue for the support of schools. Their children can live in sight of the church and schoolhouse and grow with the prosperity of the leading State in the Great Western Empire.

PRICES AND TERMS OF PAYMENT.

The prices of these lands vary from $6 to $25 per acre according to location, quality, &c. First-class farming lands sell for about $10 or $12 per acre; and the relative expense of subduing prairie land as compared with wood lands is in the ratio of 1 to 10 in favor of the former. The terms of sale for the bulk of these lands will be

One Year's Interest in advance,

at six per ct. per annum, and six interest notes at six per ct. payable respectively in one, two, three, four, five and six years from date of sale, and four notes for principal, payable in four, five, six and seven years from date of sale, the contract stipulating that one-tenth of the tract purchased shall be fenced and cultivated, each and every year, for five years from date of sale, so that at the end of five years one-half shall be fenced and under cultivation.

Twenty Per Cent. will be deducted

from the valuation for cash, except the same should be at six dollars per acre, when the cash price will be five dollars.

Pamphlets descriptive of the lands, soil, climate, productions, prices and terms of payment, can be had on application to

J. W. FOSTER, Land Commissioner, Chicago, Illinois.

For the names of the Towns, Villages and Cities situated upon the Illinois Central Railroad see pages 188, 189, 190, APPLETON'S RAILWAY GUIDE.

CAVALRY SONG.

BY CHARLES GODFREY LELAND.

Weaponed well to war we ride,
With sabres ringing by our side—
The warning knell of death to all
Who hold the holiest cause in thrall;
The sacred Right
Which grows to Might,
The day which dawns in blood-red light.

Weaponed well to war we ride,
To conquer, tide what may betide,
For never yet beneath the sun
Was battle by the devil won;
For what to thee
Defeat may be,
Time makes a glorious victory.

Weaponed well to war we ride—
Who braves the battle wins the bride;
Who dies the death for truth shall be
Alive in love eternally;
Though dead he lies,
Soft, starry eyes
Smile hope to him from purple skies.

Weaponed well to war we ride—
Hurrah! for the surging thunder-tide,
When the cannon's roar makes all seem large,
And the war-horse screams in the crashing charge.
And the rider strong
Whom he bears along
Is a death-dart shot at the yielding throng.

Weaponed well to war we ride;
The ball is open, the hall is wide—
The sabre, as it quits the sheath,
And beams with the lurid light of death,
And the deadly glance
Of the glittering lance,
Are the taper-lights of the battle-dance.

Weaponed well to war we ride—
Find your foemen on either side,
But wo to those who miss the time,
Where one false step is a deadly crime;
Who loses breath
In the dance of death,
Wins nor wears nor wants the wreath.

Weaponed well to war we ride—
Our swords are keen, our cause is tried;
When the keen edge eats and the blood runs free,
May we die in the hour of victory!
We feel no dread;
The battle-bed,
Where'er it be, has heaven o'erhead.

Knickerbocker Magazine.

The Story-Teller.

SCHOOLMASTER'S RECOLLECTIONS.

It was many years ago that I commenced keeping school. I had graduated at an academy of some note, and was well posted up in those branches of education which were introduced into our common schools; and when the committee came to examine me, I could see that they were very forcibly impressed by the ease with which I answered my questions. In short I knew about everything that was set down in the books which I had studied, for I happened to possess one of those wonderfully retentive memories that fastens surely upon whatever comes once within its grasp. I imagined, and so did the committee imagine, that I was eminently qualified for the post to which I aspired. But, as I look back now upon the events of those years, I can see wherein I greatly erred. I can see where I made great mistakes, and where I most wofully lacked in qualification; and I write this little chapter of Recollections for the benefit of those who may be just entering upon the duties of a Teacher.

When I commenced my first school (and the same ideas I had governed me for a long time afterwards,) I looked upon the children before me as so many little individuals whom I had got to fill with learning. They were, to my mind, so many human vessels which had got to be filled up with the waters of education; and my only ideas of the capacity were of size and age. In my class of ten scholars, which was to recite from the mental arithmetic, and the members of which were nearly of the same age, I considered that each individual must hold just the same amount of mathematical food, and digest it equally with the rest. And thus I commenced my school. I knew what was written in the books, and I was to teach it to the children before me. I had learned it all, and I believed they could. At least if they did not, I meant that it should be no fault of mine.

In my first class in arithmetic were two boys whom I have selected to figure in this sketch. I take them because their subsequent careers afford a striking example of the fact I wish to present. I shall not give you their real names, for they are both living, and are worthy, honorable men. I shall tell you that they were Luke Weston and James Shute. Luke was rather heavily built, with a large, full head; a florid, chubby face; a dark bluish-gray eye; dark brown hair, and inclined to be slow and dreamy when called upon to work with his mind. He could work fast enough out of doors, when the play hours came, and when the free air and vigorous exercise sent the copious blood bounding through his veins; but in the school-room, over his books, he was quite another character.

James Shute, on the other hand, was light of frame, with a small, compact head; hair of a flaxen hue; light blue eyes, and possessed an organization highly nervous and sensitive. He cared but little for the rough sports out of doors, seeming rather to prefer his books, and perfect himself in his lessons. I did not make any account of these physical peculiarities at the time, for I thought nothing of them and cared nothing for them, but I remember them well enough now.

Luke and James were in the same classes in all the branches they studied together, and the few months of difference in their ages were in favor of the former, he being a little the older. In a very short time I discovered that Luke Weston did not learn his lessons well. He blundered in his arithmetic, and stumbled lamely over his spelling lessons. As I look back now I can remember that he used to betray a deep interest in some portions of philosophy, and that, when the subject interested him, he read with feeling not excelled by any scholar in the school. But I cared little for this at the time. I looked upon the blackboard as the grand field for scholastic display; the spelling book came next, and next came Lindley Murray's old calf bound grammar, with its intricate maze of Orthography, Etymology, Syntax, and Prosody. These were my educational deities, before which every intellect must bow, and from the inspiration of which every intellect must be filled.

James Shute became my favorite scholar. He worked over his slate with an assiduity which was untiring, and I felt a pride in exhibiting his powers to my visitors. Upon the blackboard he could perform wonders for one so young. In reduction, in fractions, simple and compound, in involution, in factors, and in the roots, he was perfectly at home. So, too, in spelling was he prompt and sure. And in grammar he was excellent. He sometimes made mistakes in analyzing sentences where the meaning of the author was not plain; but he remembered his rules and knew how to apply them.

With Luke Weston I was sorely perplexed. He did not get his lessons well at all. When he came to compound fractions he could do nothing with them. Left to himself, with his own time and method, he could worry the sums out, but he was behindhand in the recitations, and always blundered upon the blackboard. In grammar he was also remiss, though not so bad as in arithmetic. When he came to parsing he got along much better than I could have anticipated, since he had been so clumsy in committing the rules and exercises of Lindley Murray to memory. In analyzing language, and comprehending the powers of words, and in understanding the author, he betrayed a keenness of perception for which I did not give him credit. I remember once the class were parsing a passage in Milton. A relative pronoun came to Luke, and he parsed it. I corrected him in matter of its relation. I told him it related to a different person from the one he had named. He read the sentence over again and objected to my idea, maintaining that he was right; and he was proceeding to show me wherein I was in error, when I interrupted him and made him stand out on the floor an hour for his disobedience of my instruction. That night, when alone in my room, I read the passage over, and at length became convinced that Luke had been right. But I would not own it to him. No, no—that would have lowered me in my own esteem. Yet I resolved to be more careful in the future how I corrected him in his parsing lessons. However, he was, in my estimation, full of short-comings. With his general behavior I had no reason to find fault, for he was a noble, generous hearted fellow, and was beloved by his friends.

"Luke," said I, as I stopped him one night after school, "why is it that you do not get your lessons?"

He said he didn't know.

"Don't tell me," I cried, "that you don't know. You don't study, that's the reason. See how James Shute gets his lesson. You are older than he is."

Luke said he could not get such long lessons—he could not remember them. He had tried hard enough to do the puzzling sums, and to spell the long words, but he could not do it.

I told him it was all nonsense. He could do it if he had a mind to. He did not try. He was more fond of play than of study. In short, I talked very severely to him, and assured him that if he did not have his lessons perfectly on the following day, I should punish him. He went away with his head bowed, and, I thought, in a sulky mood.

The following day came, and with it came the first class in arithmetic. James Shute could do every sum. Luke Weston had not done half of them. When the class came up to spell, James spelled all the words, and gave all the definitions promptly. But Luke could not remember them.

So I told Luke Weston I must punish him; and I stood him out upon the floor, and made a great fool's cap and put it upon his head, and there he stood until the school was done. He did not cry, nor did he look particularly ashamed; but he compressed his lips and looked very ugly. At all events, so I thought at the time. When I relieved him of his fool's cap, at the close of the school, I told him I hoped he would get his lessons better the next time. He made me no reply, but left the room with a quick, stern step, and went home without stopping to play with his mates. On the following day Luke did not come to school, and on the day after that I learned that he had gone to learn the shoemaker's trade. I made some little inquiry, and found that he had declared he would go to school to me no more, if he had to run away; and, as his parents were poor, they had allowed him to go to work in a neighbor's shop.

In time I finished my school, and James Shute bore off the palm of scholarship. Upon him I bestowed the highest encomiums, and held him up to the admiration of visitors.

During the vacation I visited a neighboring State, and found employment there. Then I went South, and finally became engaged as a teacher of mathematics in a school in New Orleans. The years slipped by, and still I remained in my new home. One day I received a paper from my native State, and I saw mention made of one Luke Weston, as being the leader of a strong faction in the Legislature. Of course it could not be my Luke—it could not be the one upon whom I had put the fool's cap. No—it must be another of the same name.

Time passed on, and by and by I read in the papers that Luke Weston had been elected President of the Senate of my native State, and was now the powerful leader of a powerful party. Of course this was the same Luke of whom I had before read; but it could not be the same Luke who had worn my fool's cap. Of course not.

And still time passed on, and finally I read that Luke Weston had been elected to the Senate of the United States, and that he was greatly honored by all who knew him.

In another year I visited the home of my youth, and one of my first inquiries was of Luke Weston. He was a United States Senator. So it was my Luke after all.

And where was James Shute? He was a bookkeeper in a bank, and was accounted a very correct and faithful clerk. He had been there twelve years, and would probably remain there, as he liked the place, and had no particular qualification or ambition above it.

And now, with the silver touch of many years upon my brow, I sit alone in my study and reflect upon the past. I see many, many children who have been under my charge, now grown to be men and women; and I see many of those I had thought excessively stupid, occupying places of honor and trust; while many I had thought wonderful in learning, are plodding along in the ordinary pursuits of life, the lessons of the old school-books all forgotten, and the one idea of food and clothing occupying their whole attention.

And I think, if I could teach school again, how different would be my course; for from my review of the years that have gone, I have learned some things of which I was ignorant when I first assumed the rod and staff of a pedagogue.

Different children have different capacities. Many a quick-witted, sharp-minded boy has borne away the prize of scholarship who has not studied half as hard as has the poor fellow who goes weeping to his home because he gained no medal. All minds do not grow alike. Some intellects are precocious, and germinate and go to seed very early. Such ones are apt to be the delight of the pedagogues. And yet, as I call to mind those of like character that have come under my care, I find that they have not been very prolific bearers of mental fruit.

Other intellects are slower in growth. They generally belong to bodies that are growing fast and strong. Such intellects do not grasp easily at mathematical niceties in early youth. They comprehend slowly at first, but surely; and are firm and uncompromising, and are rather apt to be skeptical upon subjects which oppose their intuitions. Such are sure to meet with little charity at the hands of the pedagogue; and yet as I call to mind those of this latter character which have come within my care, I find them to have grown stronger as they grew older, and have been prolific bearers of noble fruit. From this source we derive our original minds, and, also, most of our intellectual giants.

Teachers, seek to understand the capacities of your scholars before you begin to force the mental food upon them. If you seek to fill them with learning as you would fill barrels with water, you may make some great mistakes. Ten chances to one you may put the fool's cap on the broad brow of a Daniel Webster—that you give the position of a dunce to a Christopher Columbus—while you may set another Bill Shakspeare over among the girls because he looked that way when he ought to have been studying.

THE FIRST FUNERAL.

A correspondent of the New York *Commercial*, writing from Camp Kalorama, says:

"We had our first military funeral on Saturday afternoon.

The day before, one of our drummers, Joseph Winters, was drowned while bathing. He was a pleasant, good boy, and his sudden death made a deep impression in the encampment. His body was brought from the creek, and laid beneath a new tent pitched to receive it, under the trees of the north side of the parade ground. The men stood in silent rows in front of the tent till sundown, while a guard detailed for the purpose paced slowly back and forth. A letter was found in Joseph's pocket from "cousin Louise," and as his comrades knew that he had no parents, or brothers, or sisters living his captain wrote to her.

A little barefooted fellow, about eight years old, stood on the land when Joseph's body was recovered by the divers, and when the surgeon, promptly on the spot, was vainly endeavoring to start the water-clogged wheels of life, the little barefooted fellow walked in silence up the hill side with the men who carried the body, following close behind; and there he stood before the curtains in serious stillness. At last he spoke, with respectful manner and clear manly enunciation, to one of the field officers:

"Will you be so kind as to tell me, sir, whether he was a good boy?"

"I believe that he was, my little fellow, but I did not know him very well."

"Has he a father or mother, sir?"

"Why do you ask, my boy?"

"Because, I hope that he did not have a mother, sir, or father; they would feel so badly to hear that he was drowned." The officer cleared his throat, and the little fellow went on. "And if, sir, he has no mother or father, and if he was a good boy, I am glad."

"Why glad, my boy?"

"Because, sir, I think it was the best time for him to be taken away."

"Why the best time?"

"Because, sir, *What the Lord does is always best.*"

The funeral sermon was preached; unsurpassed in truth, comprehension, simplicity and beauty, and if you could have heard the utterance of the boy, its purity of wording, spoken in such gentle intonation, and with such unmarred accent, you would have felt that Christ's model presented to his disciples, of a child brought to him by believing parents, was the model for his ministers to this present day.

At four o'clock on Saturday afternoon the Pennsylvania band of twenty-four pieces, in front of the dead boy's tent, gently sounded forth one of the sad melodies which make military funerals peculiarly impressive; the company formed in marching order; the escort stood with muskets reversed; the remaining part of the regiment formed in the center of the parade ground in face to face columns, and the procession moved to the slow beat of the muffled drums.

The boy was placed in a plain coffin, which was wrapped in the stars and stripes, and upon it was laid a large wreath of green leaves and wild flowers, and so we carried him to an old burying ground not far distant, where the tombstones were all moss covered and inclined, where the grass was tall and untrodden, and where the cone-shaped cedars stood in irregular and friendly groups.

When his body was lowered, the chaplain read selections from the Bible and offered prayer, the escort fired the military salute, the soldiers formed again in line and we left the sleeper till the resurrection.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

THE DYING SOLDIER.

"The dying words of one of the Ohio volunteers, who fell at Vienna, were, 'It grows very dark, mother,—very dark.'" It was a mournful scene, and many a mother's heart must have felt all its sadness as the touching words have been read. He was young; for the flight of busy years had not yet obliterated the memory of a mother's loving care; noble and brave, or he would not have sprung so quickly and gladly to his country's aid when her starry flag trailed in the dust, torn by traitors' hands; and somewhere a true mother waited with an aching heart for tidings of her boy, or when the darkness of death gathered around him, his thoughts would not have wandered to her in his delirium, till he imagined that she bent over him, and that her soft hand rested on his dying brow. But it was not so. She was far away in his western home, dreaming of the absent one, and he lay dying beneath the blue skies of the sunny South. Only the tear-dimmed eyes of his comrades caught the last glances from his eyes as they closed in death. And when they laid him to his rest,—a soldier's rest,—no solemn voice of prayer, or sweet song of praise rang out on the fragrant summer air, but the hands of his brother soldiers hastily dug his grave, and they left him there with only the mournful breeze to sing his requiem as it sweeps through the forest,—the funeral song for one who gave life and all for his country's sake.

And what of her who, far away, heard the sad tidings, and whose heart cried to heaven for help and strength in that hour of agony? How a thousand memories of the past must have swept through her mind,—memories rendered bitter by the anguish of the present! Thoughts of the time when the rosy-cheeked babe lay sleeping upon her arm, while all the deep, deathless love of a mother went out to the helpless little one; how years passed and his bounding step and merry laugh made music in his pleasant home; and then he grew thoughtful and manly, and she looked forward to the time when, leaning on his strong arm, she should pass down into the dark Valley of Death. But he has gone before, and never again shall his feet cross the threshold of home. Summer will pass with its golden harvests, and winter bring the family circle again around the glowing fire, but in morning's dawn, or evening's shade, never again shall his voice utter the word "mother." Poor mother! GOD pity her!

Sometime this dreadful war will come to a close. Truth and Justice will as surely prevail over Error and Wrong as GOD reigns; but at what a cost! It is not enough that our country shall stand among the nations shorn of her ancient glory,—that our starry flag shall float in the breeze, dyed in brothers' blood, and that humanity in its upward progress shall be retarded for years to atone for our errors; but when one thinks of the desolate homes and broken hearts that will be left behind when all is over, it is heart sickening. When our glorious Stars and Stripes shall wave once more over the Palm as over the Pine, and from the blue lakes of the Northland to Texas' green savannas shall be one united country as of old, bleeding hearts North and South shall bear witness at what a fearful price peace has been won.

Verily, a day of reckoning will come, and that speedily, to those reckless leaders, of whatever name, who have plunged our once happy land into such distress, and dragged her so near to the brink of ruin!

Goodrich, Mich., 1861. BELLE HOWARD.

A STRING OF PEARLS.

A punctual man can always find leisure, a negligent one never.

If you employ your money in doing good, you put it out at the best interest.

A pleasant jest in time of misfortune is courage to the heart, strength to the arm, and digestion to the stomach.

The reasoning power is the corner-stone of the intellectual building, giving grace and strength to the whole structure.

Men spend their lives in the service of their passions, instead of employing their passions in the service of their lives.

Domestic jars, when concealed, are half reconciled. 'Tis a double task to stop the breach at home and men's mouths abroad.

Mourn not that you are weak and humble. The gentle breeze is better than the hurricane, the cheerful fire of the hearthstone than the conflagration.

Grapple ever with opportunity. And, as you don't know when opportunity will happen along, keep your grappling-irons always ready.

A firm faith is the best theology; a good life the best philosophy; a clear conscience the best law; honesty the best policy; and temperance the best physic.

Corner for the Young.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

ACROSTICAL ENIGMA.

I am composed of 21 letters.
My 1, 12, 10, 7, 4 is a plant.
My 2, 7, 10 is a lady's name.
My 3, 8, 13, 16 is a part of a ship.
My 4, 16, 7 is a kind of tree.
My 5, 6, 18, 17 is used in underdraining.
My 6, 20, 4 is seen in winter.
My 7, 2, 8 is queen of the fairies.
My 8, 18, 14 is an imaginary spirit.
My 9, 17, 4 is an insect.
My 10, 2, 18, 19 is a college of great notoriety.
My 11, 16, 10 is a plaything.
My 12, 19, 17 is a farmer's implement.
My 13, 2, 16, 18 is a title of nobility.
My 14, 18, 15, 16, 2 is the goddess of flowers.
My 15, 16, 4 is part meal.
My 16, 10, 8 is a kind of grain.
My 17, 18, 21 is a wild animal.
My 18, 10, 16, 13 is a musical instrument.
My 19, 2, 3 is a valuable tree.
My 20, 15, 10, 2 is a serpent found in Peru.
My 21, 6, 16, 3 is a Scotch name for the church.
My whole is an old adage which all would do well to remember.

Hillsboro, Ill., 1861. VICTOR.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

BIBLICAL ENIGMA.

I am composed of 24 letters.
My 18, 10, 23, 10, 14 was the father of Lot.
My 10, 6, 9, 6, 17 was one of the sons of Jacob.
My 20, 7, 14, 16, 8, 18, 6 is one of the books of the Old Testament.
My 11, 5, 20, 21, 6 was the first thing created.
To be 4, 18, 8, 16 is better than to be rich.
My 21, 22, 1 was a good man
My 1, 24, 17 was a town in Palestine.
My 19, 22, 12, 10 was a grandson of Jacob.
My whole is a Bible promise

Rochester, N. Y., 1861. T. C.

☞ Answer in two weeks

CHARADE.

My first's a preposition small;
But 'tis of frequent use.
My second, if you say to me,
You will my wish refuse.
My third's a coin of value small,
'Tis used by different races,
Both in the western hemisphere
And trans-Atlantic places.
My whole is what a person ne'er
Convicted of a crime
Is said to be, but can, I trust,
Be said of me and mine.

☞ Answer in two weeks

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

ALGEBRAICAL PROBLEM.

There is a certain number of horses and sheep. If the square of the number of horses be added to the number of sheep, the amount will be equal to three times the number of sheep, plus sixteen. But if the square of the number of sheep be added to the number of horses, the amount will be equal to seventy-three times the number of horses. Required, the number of horses and sheep.

Clymer, N. Y., 1861. M. W. G.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

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